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neGuard

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The battle for The Royal Academy

Coming soon to the Summer Exhibition?

G2 with European weather



Education

Alternative schools towards the third dimension

Pages 10/11

Why the Americans are taking over our funeral industry

Have a nice death

More accountability offered in last-minute concessions to Scott rebels

Major fights to halt revolt

Michael White and Richard Norton-Taylor

HE Government last might made a series of concessions. promising more ministerial accountability, in an attempt to head off a rebellion by some of its own backbench MPs angry about the shortcoming exposed by the Scott report into arms sales to

And in the hours leading up to the late night vote, ministers engaged in anxious talks with the nine-strong block of Ulster Unionist MPs in an effort to enlist their support. ing a secret deal involving arrangements for a Northern Ireland forum was in the

In the Commons, Tory MPs who had cheered a repeat per-formance of Trade Secretary lan Lang's initial defence of the Government from Sir Richard Scott's criticisms were forced to endure a flerce, forensic performance from Mr Cook whose mastery of the small print of the Scott Report rebuffed all attempts to check his flow.

While Mr Lang again insisted that the report vindicated claims that the ministers in the firing line — William Waldegrave, Chief Secretary to the Treasury and the Attorney General. Sir Nicholas Lvell — had acted all four of the central charge

three-year controversy.
In a dramatic appeal to the Tory benches, silent after raucous exchanges, Mr Cook

called for their support.
"The first duty of MPs is to defend the rights of Parliament against any government that threatens those rights." he said. "That is why Parliament cannot allow the pres-ent government to ignore the findings of the Scott Report that MPs were designedly misled and that ministers consistently failed in their

duty of accountability."
In a parallel debate in the Lords. Lady Thatcher prime minister during the crucial years when the guidelines on arms sales were changed — launched a ferocious defence of the policy.

for Mr Major would be followed immediately by a vote of confulence this week and—unless they came to his rescue—a March general election with incalculable consequences for the Ulster peace process. peace process.

As expected, Mr Lane sounded marginally more contrite than in his first state-ment 10 days ago and con-go2.guardian.co.uk/scott

firmed limited concessions. signalled earlier, on Government procedures. But he shied away from making any commitment to Sir Richard's key recommendations, including those on more open government and arms sales policy. He claimed the Government had an unrivalled re-cord on openness.

Mr Lang told MPs that the principle of ministerial ac-countability to Parliament another central theme of the Scott report — should be addressed by the Commons' new public service commit-tee. Sir Richard accused ministers of repeatedly failing to meet the obligations of their own code of conduct which says ministers should not mislead Parliament

use of Public Interest Immunity (PII) certificates, so-called gagging orders — Mr Lang said only that the Government would seek the views of MPs. In a separate move, Sir Nicholas Lyell said he would "like to hear from

the statute — based on second world war emergency powers - giving ministers the power to impose export controls without reference to Parliament "should be reviewed". Sir Richard described the statute as "a reprehensible abuse of executive power by successive administrations

Three backbenchers at tacked the Government's polhonourably in Britain's intericy on sales of arms to Iraq. ests. Mr Cook said Sir Rich-Sir Richard Shepherd, the MP and had found them guilty on | for Aldridge-Brownhills, warned: "I am protoundly di levelled by Labour during the turbed that the intent behind the policy, if not to tell a dis-truth, was to actually give an impression that was design-edly misleading."

What stood between Britain and an elective dictatorship "is the candidness, the open-ness, the frankness of those that govern us, and when they mislead, how do we know the premises on which we argue our case are

truthful? Quentin Davies, the MP for Stamford and Spalding. accepted that the Chief Secre tary to the Treasury, William Waldegrave, may not have meant to mislead the House, but he had done so and some-

bility. Rupert Allason, the MP for Torbay, concentrated his fire on the use of PII certificates, saying there had been a con-

Hugo Young, page 9. Full background and latest news on the Guardian's Scott



On another key issue - the lawvers and others" Mr Lang acknowledged that

Protesters masquerading as John Major and Saddam Hussein in a CND demonstration outside the House of Commons during the Scott debate yesterday

abour's little devil turns Tory narcolepsy to nightmare

Sketch

Simon Hoggart

praising Robin Cook's speeches, but it isn't, because he is so extraordinarily good. He is so much better than anybody on his own side. It's as if Eric Cantona were to play park football, or Dame Judi Dench turn up with the

Wittering Parva Players. lan Lang began with a speech of exceptional tedium. This may have been deliber-ate. Tory rebels, under a pow erful narcoleptic spell, could then be gently steered into the Aye lobby by specially trained

para-whips. Mr Lang's defence was that the Government had been entirely exonerated by the Scott Report. However, it was just possible, he conceded, that there might be room for a few changes, a little tinkering.

some slight modifications to the gleaming machinery of government. The XJ6 had been sent for a service, he implied, and it was time to remedy that squeaky ashtray. For the most part. Tory

backbenchers sat in a strange dormant silence. They were like those middle-aged businessmen in the weird British Airways ads, snoozing away

Airways aus, shouzing away in their nappies.

Mr Lang finished, once again, by blaming it all on Mr Cook. "Vindictive... contemptible... odious" were just a few of the adjectives be used, but even they scarcely roused MPs from their torpor. The Miniature Satan rose but, being short, not very far.

He has been compared (by me) to a vandalised garden gnome, but that implies a passivity which he never displays. Rather, he is the monster in the old Quatermass films. drawing extra strength and fe rocity from the increasingly desperate attempts to stop him. Fill him full of bullets,



and you get another tentacle round your neck. Every interruption, every intervention, seems to heighten his savagery. Tories stood up, but he knocked them down with the ease of a small boy kicking dandelion heads. David Mellor made the mis-

take of standing up twice. ("Is

'e still 'ere?" asked Dennis Skinner.) If I were a cynic I might imagine that Mr Mellor was trying to grease his way back on to the front bench. All he did yesterday was make matters worse by repeat ing the Tory charges against

Mr Cook, permitting him, with extempore brio, to build up his speech. For example, Conservatives allege Labour alleged the Government let arms go to Saddam. Mr Cook skated over this. The Government had permit-

ted the export of machine tools which would permit the lragis to make shells and missiles. Tories jeered. Mr Cook's voice rose to its familiar squeak (at times only bats and Elaine Kellett-Bowman can hear him). "Saddam Hussein was never going to take Brit-ish machine tools and shove them down gun barrels to point at British soldiers!"

Phil Gallie (C, Ayr), the thinking man's Rab C. Nesbitt, said there was a difference. Mr Cook cheerfully batted

him down with a five-dollar word from the Scott Report: Soph istry Michael Heseltine, the only minister praised by Scott, interrupted twice. (Later Men-

zies Campbell described his polgnant situation: "Sir Rich-

ard Scott gave him a medal.

but he cannot wear it.") Hezza tried hard ("the hollow and synthetic allegations he has peddled across the country have exploded in his face", a metaphor not so much mixed as Cuisinarted) but was out of his depth. Mr Cook finished in triumph.



Strictures at an exhibition

Michael Ellison Arts Correspondent

NE of the great institutions of the British art world is at the centre of a struggle between the guardians of tradition and the champions of pickled sheep and sleeping actresses in

glass cases. One faction at the 228-yearold Royal Academy of Aris wants to transform the staid

open to any artist with the f12.50 entry fee.
Each year 15 members of the academy see up to 13,000 works and select about 1,200 to be crammed into the galleries at Burlington House, Piccadilly. Then the critics tion as an amateurish affront.

the academy's artist co-ordi- | nator, wrote to dealers: "The academy is concerned that the artistic standard of the exhibition needs to be greatly improved." She said now the aim was to encourage younger artists to submit work.

"We don't do installations and that's what a lot of young artists are doing. We want to make the exhibition seem more appealing." The forum to discuss the role of the exhibition was to have included a panel chaired by Julia Peyton-Jones, director of the Ser-pentine Gallery.

The Serpentine was where the actress Tilda Swinton was installed in a glass case last year. It has been described by the critic Brian Sewell as specialising in silly shows staged by silly women.
But a meeting to consider
the changes has been post-

poned after a backlash by Royal Academicians. Review, said: "A very loyal public goes to the show and they spend a lot of money. The economics of the Royal Academy are so uncertain, because they receive no public subsidy, that they need the income. I was baffled when I heard about this. The show is crap and critics love it to be

Last night Karsten Schubert, who represents Rachel Whiteread, winner of the Purper Prize with a cast of the inside of an east London house, offered surprising sup-port for the traditionalists. "You don't foot with Asco so you shouldn't f*** with the Royal Academy summer

Hanging jury, G2 Front



This is Dr Theodore 'Ted' Hall, a retired .Cambridge scientist. Is he the

missing link in one of the world's biggest espionage coups?

Salford shows Eastern promise as Saudi revives old textile mill

Martyn Halsall, Northern

A SAUDI businessman is preparing to re-invent the Industrial Revolution as a mill-owner in Salford. But the mill, complete with old-fashioned looms immake Arab headgear for ex-

Sutton Vale, a Saudi-owned company, is invest-ing more than £1 million to revive a former textile mill. Salford councillors, who have made their largest in-dustrial grant of £130,000 to sweeten the Saudis' arrival, hope the city will attract more Middle Eastern businesses.

Mike Amiry, who advised Sutton Vale, said only historic looms, using tradi-

tional shuttles, could produce the red, white and black yashmaks — traditional headgear — in a delicate process resembling

embroidery.

Textile experts had to travel to South Korea to buy the kind of looms phased out in Britain in the 1960s, but which Saudis prefer for handling the fine cotton used for yashmaks. Sutton Vale, which hopes to employ 100 workers, also imported South Korean ex-perts to train its British employees, but is appealing for skilled former mill workers to come out of

retirement.

Hussein Charcharchi, the company's UK director. said: "In Saudi the 'Made in Britain' tag is a big selling point." Even if the looms were made in Japan.

Inside

The state of the s

Comment 9 Obituaries 10 Financial news 12

Inside Story 4/5 Law 7 Health 8/9 Education 10/11 Women 12/13

Quick Crossword 15 Cartoons 15 Radio 16 Television 16



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BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE

Fayeds lose battle for citizenship

ARRODS owner, Mohamed Al Fayed and his brother, Ali, yesterday lost their Court fight with the Home Secretary to become British citizens.

Mr Justice Judge ruled that while Michael Howard's rejection of their applications was lawful, it "may have lacked the appearance of fair-ness". He asked sympathetically whether it was right not to give reasons in such cases.

He even urged Mr Howard to use his discretion and give the two Egyptian-born brothers some indication why their applications had failed. The Fayeds are to appeal "urgently" to the House of

Lords. After the ruling was delivered. Mohamed Al Fayed

'I am determined to know why we were refused and the part played by Michael Howard'

declared: "We fight on. This was a moral victory for us. I will not rest until I have exposed the truth, as I have done in the past with other government matters.
"I am determined to know

the reasons behind the refusal of our applications and the part played by [Mr] Howard and the junior minis-ter who initially handled the applications, Charles Wardle. "I believe that both men had conflicts of interest which should have disquali-

ment in the decision. Mohamed Al Fayed played a key part in the exposure of the MPs "cash for questions" affair, and Mr Howard and Mr Wardle were involved in Industry inquiry into the brothers' takeover of House of Fraser, which owned

fied them from any involve-

Mr Fayed said it was well documented that Mr Howard

First night

Judith Mackrell

Birmingham Hippodrome

Far from the Madding Crowd

T'S THE big dilemma for all

conscientious ballet chore-ographers. While audiences

pallets, companies can't dance

Sleeping Beauty every night. So new story ballets have to be

made. Yet finding workable

plots for ballet isn't simple .

or, as even MacMillan and

Ashton have shown, more stories prove to be undance-

able than otherwise. If you're Twyla Tharp you

invent your own tale (as in Mr

Wordly Wise) and conceal the

ketchy narrative under a

blast of dancing. If you're David Bintley, however, you

Recently he has grappled

with Cyrano and Edward II.

His latest choice, for the Bir-

Hardy supplies his heroine Bathsheba with three lovers. giving Bintley ample opportunities to do what ballet finds

easiest — showing people fall-ing in and out of love. But

there are other things in Hardy, such as complex moti-

phy and pages of description that are far less sympathetic

The ballet scores instant

points with its music and de-

sign, Hayden Griffin's simple

on to vast distances of coun-

in touch with the elements.

atmospheric interiors give out

tryside that keep the narrative

THOMAS Creedon, the two-

child at the centre of a legal

battle over euthanasia, has

died following a chest

Con and Fiona Creedon,

Thomas's parents, had

launched a High Court action

vear-old brain damaged

while Paul Reade's sympa-thetic score cues the plot with the dour workman's body.

Brain damaged boy at centre of

euthanasia battle dies aged two

to remove the artificial feed son and we loved him."

to dance.

Kevin Toolis

infection.

heavy duty philoso-

mingham Royal Ballet, is Far From the Madding Crowd. This sounds like a good idea as

scour the bookshelves.

maintain a stubborn prefer-

ence for big three act story

Opportunity lost

in a jolly vista

versations between him and Mr Wardle which have yet to

The brothers have lived in Britain for more than 30 years and Mohamed, as the Harrods' chairman, took the unusual step of disclosing he had paid £3 million in UK income tax last year and £22 million in corporation tax.

Their principal homes are

in Britain and between them they have seven British born children. Harrods employs more than 5,000 people. "They have played a very full part in the charitable life

of the country. They feel they have done enough to be permitted citizenship," said Harrods' public affairs direc-tor, Michael Cole.

During the two-day hearing last week, the High Court heard that the absence of an official reason for the rejected citizenship applications had led to widespread speculation that the decision had been made on purely political The decision not to disclose

the reasons for the rejection was taken under the 1981 Nationality Act. The Fayeds complained during the hearing that Mr Howard's action represented "the epitome of closed government". Mr Justice Judge yesterday appeared sympathetic to their

case, noting that the Home Office letters rejecting their applications last February had been "terse in the extreme". There had been a "strong trend" in recent years to

require that reasons should be given by decision makers to those adversely affected by their decisions. But "however desirable

that may seem to the applicant - and indeed the court - the Secretary of State cannot be required to give reasons," the judge said.
"On the uncontradicted

from the statutory context, the process lacks the appearance of fairness, but that does not render the decision unlawful.

He said that whether it was right for candidates for citizenship to have their applications refused without knowhad taken the unusual step of ling the reasons was a matter intervening personally in the for Parliament.

pastoral melodies, folk dances

Yet Griffen, Reade, and Bintley are fatally inclined to

sanitise their material. While

Hardy's novel is smudged with dirt, muddle and despair.

the ballet mostly presents a

joily vista of waving milk-maids, smocked shepherds

of the choreography is side-tracked by heritage diver-

tissements, and the more at-

tention Bintley lavishes on

peasant dances and sheep-

shearing contests, the more

he lets slip the story's essentials, the love pas de deux.

The dance rarely gets under the skin of Bathsheba's three

relationships, and we seldom feel the movement throbbing

points where Bintley should

trust the dancing rather than

Bintley's mime throughout is

alive and eloquent and the choreograpy for the seduced

and abandoned Fanny is a lovely portrait of shy, delicate hesitations. The ballet also rises to shocking melodrama

in the struggle over Fanny's dead body where Troy vi-

ciously slaps away Bathshe-ba's consoling arms and cov-

ers the corpse with kisses. Most importantly, Bintley

gets excellent performance from his dancers. Though

Kevin O'Hare's Troy over-

plays caddishness at the ex-

mora convincingly shows the armour of Bathsheba's beauty

being pierced by tragedy. Yuri

Zukhov is a compellingly tense William Boldwood, and

David Justin plays Gabriel

Oak perfectly, his awkward

honest gait showing you the romantic soul trapped inside

ing tube that they believed

prolonged their son's suffer-

Keyingham, near Hull, were opposed by his doctors.

Friday. Mr Creedon said yes-

terday: "It's sad for Thomas and its hard for us. But it was

hard for Thomas when he was

alive and it is a relief he is no

longer in pain. He was our

ing. The Creedons, from

Thomas died at home last

Yet the movement is res-cued by some fine moments.

ger and obsession. At the

the tale, he draws back.

with the Hardy themes of hun-

and comic rustics. Too much

and churning climaxes.

Singer faces £200,000 legal bill after agreement hammered out with record label



Robble Williams, who apologised for bringing the action after yesterday's High Court hearing PHOTOGRAPH STEFAN ROUSSEAU

Ex-Take That star drops freedom fight

ORMER Take That was last with an esti-mated £200,000 legal bill and a question mark over his future yesterday, when a High Court attempt to break free from his record company collapsed after just two

Williams, who left the now-folded teen band last July, was due to argue his right to leave RCA and launch a solo career with another label.

But after the brief hearing before Mr Justice Lightman BMG Records (UK) — the owner of RCA — announced it nad reached an agreement on Sunday night to avoid a long and potentially acrimonious High Court action. Costs were awarded in its favour.

The judge said: "The par-ties have been very sensible in settling in this way and I congratulate them." Williams, aged 22, was not in court to hear that the action and the counter-claim were dismissed on his under-taking — which was not revealed.

Friends said he was "very happy" with the decision and was going on holiday. In a written statement Williams said: "I am extremely sorry that I ever brought this case and I now fully accept the va-lidity and enforceability of my BMG recording contract I remain a BMG artist."

The decision was, however an anti-climax for Williams's young fans - some of whom for a chance to see him arrive

that Robble was not here," said Amanda Colton, aged 16. from East Ham, east London, who had waited since 3.30am outside the High Court in the Strand with her friend Zoe Pickett, also 16.

"It was freezing last night But it would have been worth it if he had shown up.

Nicola Bramley, aged 17. and her sister, Carly, aged 16, from Chingford, Essex, said they could not understand why Williams had given in. He seemed so determined to get his way in his new Williams, who will return

to Britain to start work on his solo record, had claimed that RCA had an exclusive call on his talents which he said was an unreasonable restraint of unenforceable.

Companies like Virgin and EMI were said to have dangled lucrative rival contracts. RCA said his present contract allows him to pursue a solo career, and it would have sought an injunction stopping

him going elsewhere.
Williams is said to have earned about £1 million from his time with Take That, a hugely successful enterprise which has garnered seven number one singles and 10 number one singles and 10 million album sales. He is also set to make £500,000 from the group's

Greatest Hits album and has been reported as saying that the action would have cost him the lot, if it had ultimately gone against him. Take That, who announced

their split earlier this month. vesterday released their final single, a cover of the Bee Gees' hit How Deep Is Your

Lost in space: one satellite worth £290m



An experiment to generate power from the Earth's magnetic field has ended in costly and embarrassing failure for Nasa

Astronaut Umberto Guidoni reflects on a failed mission

Ian Katz in New York

MBARRASSED Ameri can and Italian space researchers are trying to establish how they man ged to lose a \$443 million (£290 million) satellite while dangling it from the shuttle Columbia on a 12mile, hi-tech "shoelace The Italian-built satellite and most of its electricity

terday spinning round the earth approximately 2,000 miles away from Columbia after the wire mysteriously snapped as the shuttle crew deployed the half-ton craft on Sunday night.

Nasa officials were refus

ing to comment on what might have caused the tether to snap inside the 40ft tower-like boom used

to launch the satellite but video footage showing ap-parent charring has prompted speculation that it may have been the result of overheating or sparks.

"Everything is a suspect at this point," said Chuck Shaw, the agency's lead flight director. "That's the reason the effort is to not disturb the crime scene until you're sure you've col-lected all the information." Coming weeks after the 10th anniversary of the Challenger disaster, the loss of the satellite is a bitter blow to Nasa as it struggles to find a role in the post-cold war environment. The Columbia mission was the second on which astronauts had attempted to

to jam dangerously with the satellite just 850 feet from the shuttle. "If you don't ever get your nose bloodied, you're not in the game," said Mr Shaw. "We got our nose bloodied this time." Colum bia's seven-man crew which includes two Italians

and a Swiss, was said to be depressed yesterday as Nasa announced the shut-tle's mission would be cut short by a day. The experiment had sounded simple: by "drag-ging" the 12-mile cord

through the earth's mag-netic field, electricity would be generated and conducted back to the shuttle. tethers could in future provide a cheap power source

With a core of copper wire and a hylon coating that gives it the appearance of string, the tether is just a 10th of an inch thick. But researchers believed it was strong enough to hold the satellite which was supposed to exert no more than 10 lbs of force in space.

The Columbia crew planned to allow the satel-lite to fly 12.8 miles from But around five hours after they began unwinding the cord with an electric winch, the astronauts noticed that it had gone slack.

At 8.30pm, Dr Jeffrey Hoffman, a veteran of the failed 1992 mission, ra-diced mission control in Houston: "The tether has deploy the satellite; four Houston: "The tether years ago the tether got broken at the boom caught on a bolt, causing it going away from us." broken at the boom! It is

Killing Fields actor found shot dead in Los Angeles

Christopher Reed In Los Angeles

HAING NGOR — who was tortured by Cambodia's Khmer Rouge, escaped and went on to win an Oscar for his part in the 1984 film The Killing Fields — has been shot dead in Los Angeles.

Police took his body away side his parked car in the Chinatown area of Los Angeles late on Sunday, apparently as he arrived home. Ngor, aged 45, who trained as a gynaecologist, died from a single gun wound. Police sald no motive had been established.

Early indications suggested that it might be an attempted robbery in a neighbourhood close by a notorious crime area. However, police had not ruled out a link with Ngor's horrific past, a personal grudge, or even a stray bullet in LA's murderous streets.

Ngor was jailed for several years when the Khmer Rouge took over his country and killed millions of people. He escaped to Thailand four years later and in 1980 moved to the United States.

In 1984 he was unexpectedly was offered a part in The Kill-ing Fields, which closely resembled his own experi-ences. He played the Cambo-dian journalist Dith Pran. who was imprisoned after the Khmer Rouge takeover.

Oblivery, page 10

Buchanan activists busy raising Arizona

Martin Walker

gency of Pat Buchanan could score another up-set victory in today's Republican presidential primary election in Arizona, where polls on the eye of the vote showed him just ahead of his main rival, Senator Robert Dole. The nominal frontrunner

and party elder, Mr Dole fired his costly campaign consultants yesterday, complaining that their opinion polls had been misleadingly optimistic. The Dole campaign's advance work has been embarrass-ingly bad, with facilities booked for up to 1,000 people at a Phoenix airport rally on Sunday night, to which only 60 supporters showed up.
"The Dole campaign is im-

ploding - it's not good news when you dynamite your own headquarters going into a pri-mary," Mr Buchanan chuck-

Mr Buchanan's momentum is becoming formidable in the wake of victories in the New Hampshire primary and in the caucus votes in Louisiana and Alaska, and his strong being divided among Mr Dole,

pocket another 39 delegates in Arizona's winner-takes-all election, before the next round of primaries in the fer-tile region of the South. The latest local polls in Ari-

zona show Mr Buchanan at 24 points, Mr Dole and Forbes at 23 points, Lamar Alexander at 10 points and the rest unde-cided. Mr Forbes could be Mr Buchanan's main rival, after spending \$4 million (£2.6 million) and blanketing the state's large retired population with postal ballots, at the peak of his opinion poll ratings. "If the polls show it even,

Buchanan will win because his supporters are true believers. They'd crawl through barbed wire to vote for him," Arizona's governor, Fife Symington, said yesterday.

Based in the churches antiabortion groups and gun paign includes some of the most nassionate activists in American society. But he remains a minority figure, whose run of success in the primaries depends on the

second place in lows. Already Mr Alexander and Mr Forbes. PAT-GO phone number, and lion last year, \$7 million in January, and at least as much far, Mr Buchanan could of finits, Mr Buchanan has run phoned in." an astute guerrilla campaign. "I write my own speeches and my own TV ads. I have no

fancy campaign consultants, no professional pollsters and no focus groups and I fly coach class," Mr Buchanan travel with the candidate. He had four paid staff in New Hampshire for the primary, told the Guardian yesterday. T have no overheads. The the Arizona campaign is run other guys spend 40 to 50 cents on professional fundentirely by volunteers, and his Florida effort is managed raisers to raise every dollar. by his cousin. We advertise our 1-800-GO-

Senator Dole spent \$18 mil- ries loom next month.

has a paid staff of six, who work from the basement of his house in a Washington suburb, and three more who travel with the candidate. consultants believed that money should be spent early.
That has proved disastrous

advice, which could leave Mr Buchanan the best-financed candidate as the big Texas, Florida and California prima-



Haing Ngor: film mirrored his real-life experiences

110=1

Rewarding work with children

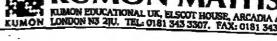
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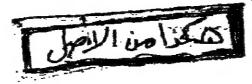
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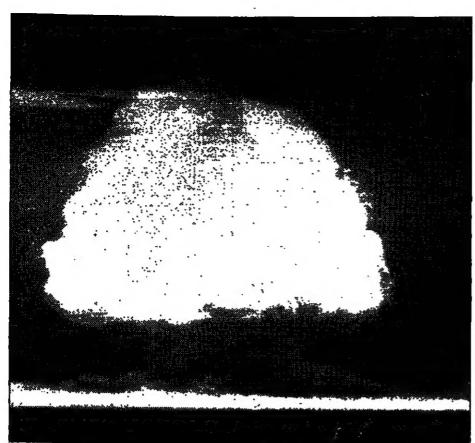
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Jonathan Steele meets Dr Ted Hall, the Cambridge scientist alleged to have passed the secrets of the first nuclear bomb to Stalin

Was this man Moscow's atom spy?



The first atom bomb is tested, on July 16, 1945 in Alamogordo, New Mexico

SOFT-SPOKEN Cambridge scientist, now retired and suffering from inoperable kidney cancer, refused to comme yesterday on allegations that he was the missing link in one of the biggest espionage dramas of the century, the leaking of secrets from the United States atom bomb project to the Soviet Union.

In an exclusive interview with the Guardian in his modest terraced house in Newn ham he revealed that he now passionately hates the nuclear arms race and feels that in the 1980s the Reagan administration was more to blame than the Russians for

keeping it going. Dr Ted Hall, a New Yorker who moved to Britain in 1962. was one of a team of brilliant young physicists recruited for the top-secret project codenamed Manhattan, centred in Los Alamos, New Mexico. At the age of 18 he already had a

ស្រុកគីតឲ្យស

H

degree from Harvard. Although he was inter viewed by the FBI in the early nage, no action was taken. newly released Soviet and US documents which have been seen by the Washington Post suggest that he may have been an informant for the Russians, referred to in KGB cables as "Mlad" (an abbrevi-

ation for "young"). In an article published in Sunday's Washington Post after interviewing several former US and Soviet intelligence officers, Michael Dobbs tal to his health for him to be alleged that the secret of the dragged into controversy

US bomb was passed to the over allegations regarding Russians separately by two agents working at Los Alamos. One of them, Klaus Fuchs, a refugee from Nazi British delegation to the Manhattan project, was convicted in Britain of espionage and

sentenced to 15 years. The other agent known as Mlad has never been unmasked. Although the US government learned his name everal years ago, according to Dobbs, they declined to take action. The newly declassified material points to Dr

A Soviet agent visited Theodore Hall, 19 years old', and Hall 'handed over a report about [Los Alamos]'

Theodore Alvin Hall as "likely candidate", he wrote. Dr Hall confirmed the allegations. In a statement put out by his so-licitor yesterday he said that he had read the Washington Post story and "apart from observing that it contains numerous inaccuracies he doe not wish to comment on it or talk about his time on the Manhattan project in Los Ala-mos . . . It would be detrimental to his health for him to be



Two months later. US scientists test the site for radiation

atomic spies in the United States, Cohen visited Los Ala-mos shortly before the first events said to have taken place half a century ago." US bomb test on July 16, 1945. She picked up the docu-ments from a physicist and ument now in the public do-main, which was sent to Moscow from the KGB in New hid them in a box of Kleenex When she reached Albuquer que station for the return The document says a Soviet train journey to New York agent "visited Theodore Hall, she saw plainclothes police 19 years old", and Hall checking passengers. She handed over a report about later boasted that she nonchalantly asked one of them to Los Alamos and named key hold the Kleenex box while atom bomb project.
The coded document is one she looked for a ticket. Mr Yatskov said: "They never looked into the box. When she

The information only revealed details of the deciphering last July. The No-vember 1944 document does not identify Ted Hall as Mlad but seven other KGB mesprovided by the Los Alamos moles enabled the Soviet Union to build its own bomb earlier

mos enabled the Soviet Union to build its own bomb two or handed me the materials, three years earlier than would they were about how the atom According to another inter-cepted KGB document, Mlad Cohen, who adopted the gave the Russians a descrip

tion of four methods for pro-ducing enriched uranium. Mlad also appears to have were released in a "spy" ex-change and travelled to Mosfrom Los Alamos which were handed to a woman courier, cow. Both are now dead Leontine Cohen. According to Anatoly Yatskov, a former

name Kroger, came to promi-nence in Britain in 1960 when husband here posing as antiquarian booksellers. They

Now aged 70, Dr Hall is a diffident man who says he wants to be remembered for Soviet intelligence officer wants to be remembered for who controlled most of the his 40-year career as a

cal X-ray microanalysis. He took questions from the Guardian yesterday on his scientific work and his politics on condition that nothing was asked about the espio nage allegations.

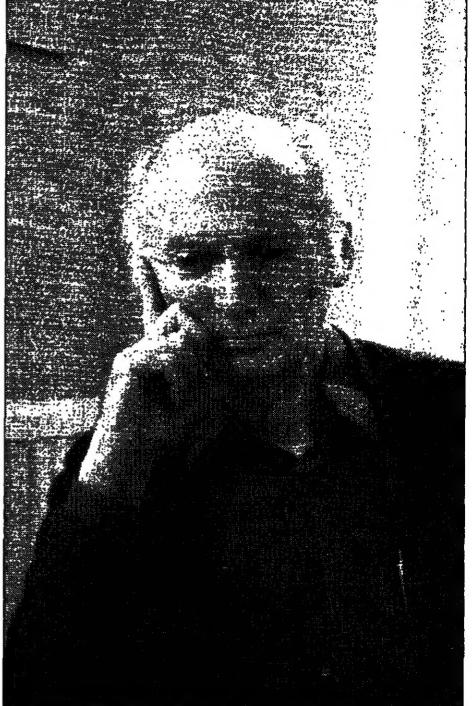
Known to colleagues as "the great historical figure of biological microanalysis". Dr Hall is suffering from Parkinson's disease and kidney can cer. He rejuctantly described his "main achievement" as the development of equations which enabled scientists to look at X-ray data through electron microscopes and de duce the concentrations of various elements.

Like many Manhattan project scientists, including last year's Nobel peace prize win-ner, Dr Joseph Rotblatt, Dr Hall turned against nuclear

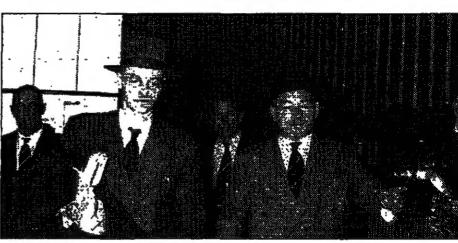
Joan, who taught Russian and Italian at Cambridge, take a keen interest in politics and read a variety of leftwing journals. "We were members of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, but it was only paper membership. We did

Asked about the arms race he said "There was an enthusiasm for re-armament in the United States which the Soviet Union couldn't match. It's nothing to do with passing judgment on their politi-cal system."

Dr Hall added "Reagan set out to bankrupt the Soviet Union because [he] thought it would bankrupt itself trying to follow ... I think it happened,"



Ted Hall at home in a village near Cambridge. He now passionately hates the arms race



Klaus Fuchs leaves London for east Berlin in 1959 after serving nine years for espionage

Fact triumphs over fiction in battle for book-buying public

John Ezard

AHUNGER for self-improve-ment and for knowledge which will help people get jobs has hit three of the great staple genres of 20th century fiction-historical romances modern romantic novels and adventure stories.

Instead, the sales boom in the 1990s has been in puzzle, quiz and cookery books, with dictionaries holding a high place in the market.

These unexpected trends are disclosed in the draft report of a new depth survey of the tastes of 1,800 book-

The study. Books and The Consumer, shows that be-tween 1989-1993 fiction's overall share of the market slumped from 40 to 30 per cent, with its place largely being usurped by general and practical reference works. A fifth of the shoppers studied by the research com-

pany Book Marketing Ltd was buying ten or more puzzle and quiz books every year. The books registered the biggest single gain in market share in 1989-95, from 5.6 per cent to nearly seven per cent.
"The winners were mainly

reference non-fiction- and the losers mannly fiction", the draft report says. "More people bought a cookery book hoped.

than any other genre". BML's research director eslie Henry said yesterday "People want to know more and to improve themselves.

mation which will help then get jobs.
"Since they only have lim ited time to read books, they have been turning away from

fiction. Cookery books have been helped by a huge TV The trend will surprise ana lys's who see Catherine Cook-son and Wilbur Smith still high in the best-seller lists. However, Mr Henry said "One adventure author like dinary well but a lot of others

"Historical fiction isn't what today's young are look ing for. Soap fans want East enders rather than something older".

Sales of modern romantic fiction have recovered well in the last two years and clas-sics, thanks partly to cutprice editions, now sell better than in 1989. Crime fiction sales have held stable.

But other genres are still sliding. And the survey finds that the result of abandoning the New York Agreement less

the Net Book Agreement last autumn was to slow the market rather than boost it, as ad-vocates of the change had

Briton who shot herself in US 'had mind of an extremist'

Barbie Dutter

AYOUNG British woman who killed herself in America in an apparent death pact with two friends left be-hind 100 pages of notes which showed her to have the mind of an extremist, police said

In a Soviet intellige

York in November 1944, Dr

Hall is identified by name.

of scores which the US sov-ernment intercepted but

which the National Security

Agency has taken more than

10 years to decipher. The NSA

sages, according to the Wash-

ington Post, contain circumstantial evidence that this

The information provided by the moles inside Los Ala

Jane Greenhow, an astrophysics graduate, shot herself in the head at a Californian beauty spot last week, the day after her two travelling com-panions killed themselves at a

panions killed themselves at a shooting range in Arizona.
"Her mindframe was that of an extremist," said Lieutenant John Boyle, chief deputy coroner of Shasta County, northern California. "The notes are suggestive of suicide. She wasn't happy in England."

England."
Ms Greenhow, aged 23 from Harrogate, North York-shire, had been travelling in America for seven weeks with Stephen Bateman, aged 23. and Ruth Fleming, aged 22. All three had shared a house in Andover, Hampshire.

Mr Bateman, from Lancas ter, and Ms Fleming, of Bow-burn, Co Durham, shot themburn, Co Durham, snot mem-selves with hired pistols at a shooting range in Mesa, near Phoenix, Arizona, on Febru-ary 21. The following day, Ms. Greenhow killed herself at Lake Shasta, 100 miles away.

They were all wearing black, paramilitary-style clothing when they died and had left behind a trail sug-

gesting neo-Nazi sympathies. Photographs of people in black military-style clothing and pages from firearms magazines were found in the Lon don botel where they had stayed before flying to Amer-ica, and last week a doctor's appointment card bearing the words "Eternal Hell" and "Obergruppenfuhrer Stasspoin a motel where they had

Police are also investigating a cheque for 26 million which appeared to have been made out to Ms Greenhow by among her belongings

Both of the dead women graduated in 1994 with firstclass astrophysics degrees personal tutor, was adamant they had no neo-Nazi connec tions while at the university.

saying they were quiet stu-dents with "very limited" knowledge of the world. Tony Robson, a researcher for Searchlight, the anti-racist magazine, said he was not aware of any links between the trio and any extreme right-wing groups in Britain. "They would have stood out a mile," he added. Colonial. Choose Arrange Organise Phone

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"It's part of the long, slow march of the progressivists in British arts institutions. Burlington House has been on their hit list for some time. When these people were part of a fringe in the 60s no-one reckoned on how successful they would become. This is their boldest move, it shows how strong they feel they are."

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ecurry all telephone calk will be recorded and the recording kept secure Colonial Briect, Colonial Mutual House, Chathian Martinic, Kent, M&4 41 (

Dissident **'facing** violence'

HE SAUDI opposition leader Mohammed al-Mas'ari would face physical danger and risk being held as a virtual prisoner if he was expelled to Dominica, his immigration appeal hearing was told

John O'Connor, a former Scotland Yard Flying Squad commander who visited the Caribbean island to check sefessor al-Mas'ari, said that a violent demonstration was planned by the main opposi-tion party to prevent the dissident leaving his aircraft.
Glving evidence on the

third and final day of the Immigration Appellate Authority hearing in London, Mr O'Connor said feelings were running high in Dominica over Britain's attempt to "dump" the political exile on the island. "My professional view is that he would be in physical danger from the mo-ment of arrival."

runs a corporate security con-sultancy, said he had been told by Dominica's police commissioner. Desmond Blanchard, that if Prof al-Mas'ari continued his political activism on the island, he "could find things difficult".

But the court was told by Stephen Richards, counsel for the Home Office, that Mr Blanchard had provided a in favour of the Home Office, statement in response to Mr Prof al-Mas'ari will seek leave sion, saying his remarks had

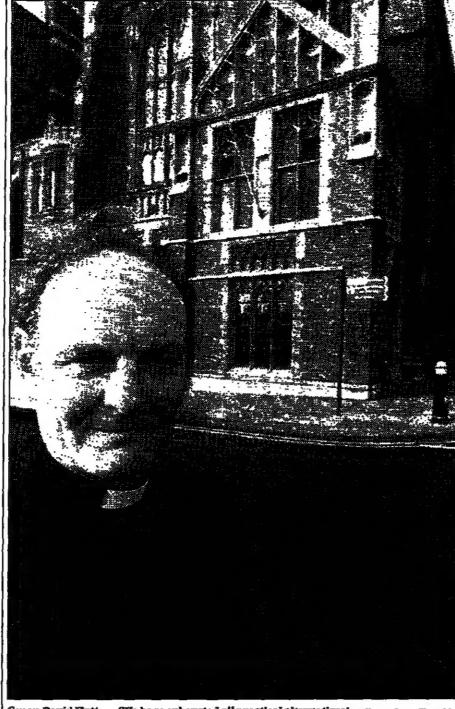
O'Connor of producing a "slanted report directed to trying to show Prof al-Mass'ari would be in danger".

But citing the availability of firearms on the island and Dominica's "serious drugs problem", Mr O'Connor said he did not believe the police had sufficient manpower and equipment to offer Prof al-Mas'ari "long-term protection" He said the only way the dissident could be protected would be in a "fortress-like edifice with round-the-clock guards" in a remote part of the island. If his telephone and fax were monitored or removed, he would be a "vir-

Summing up, Mr Richards said that there was "no credi-ble evidence" that Dominica was unsafe, nor was there any reason to doubt the Dominican prime minister's assurances that asylum would be granted.

The Saudi ambassador had given the British government a pledge that Saudi Arabia in-tended Prof Mas'ari no harm. In his summing up, Andrew Nicol QC, for Prof al-Mas'ari, said if the dissident leader against the Saudi regime from Dominica, the island might come under pressure to

The Chief Special Adjudica-tor, Judge David Pearl, adnext Tuesday, when he will deliver his ruling. If he finds for judicial review of the deci sion to deport him. If the rul-



Canon David Hutt... 'We have exhausted all practical alternatives' PHOTOGRAPH MARTIN ARGUE

Property losses force sale of Church library

Madeleine Bunting on why 100,000 books are to be moved

NE of the country's largest and oldest Anglican theological libraries is to be sold and its 100,000 books dispersed, following huge losses n property speculation.

The future of Sion College Library was decided yesterday at a tense extraordinary general meeting in the Vic-torian Grade II listed building overlooking the Thames in central London after a long and acrimonious battle beween clergy and lay readers.

The Court, the college's London clerics, was accused of defeatism and blind panic in abandoning an historic and valuable institution.

"The Church of England is more interested in hand-clay ing and making coffee tha in education nowadays," said John Oddy, a college member and former library officer. "It used to have the reputation of being a learned body, now the clergy are all amateurs. If Sion goes under it will be the last straw, I will go over to the Roman Catholic Church."

Dr Oddy accused the Court of being "seized by a blind The Rev Richard Parsons, member of the College for 30 years, accused the Court of consultation, 'To sell without proper planning, I think, is one more indication that the

Readers pleaded for the library's survival and said the Court should launch a fun-



an appeal rejected

bishop of Canterbury, who used to use the library as a student, has offered to head an appeal for the library but was turned down.
Canon David Hutt, the act-

ing-president of the college. maintained that an appeal was unrealistic. "We have exhausted all practical alternatives. Like many church institutions,

everyone wants them to remain exactly as they were but we haven't had the money to maintain the building or expand. We need half a mil-lion to bring the building up to scratch. The plight of Sion College

Church of England has got a bears striking similarities with the Church Commissioners, who lost £800 million o the Church of England's hisdraising appeal and apply to toric assets in property specutrust funds in the US. Dr lation in the late 1980s. The George Carey, the Arch- College lost half of its build-

ing assets when it embarked on an ill-ventured attempt to shore up its future by cashing in on the property boom — borrowing £400,000 in 1986 to refurbish part of its property

for letting. No tenant materialised, and it was eventually sold last year, interest on the loan wiped out virtually the entire proceeds of the million pound

sale.
"It was the loss of a major asset which has put us in an impossible position — it was property market speculation which went wrong, admitted Canon John Halliburton, the honorary librarian who became a member of the Court. the college's ruling body two

years ago. He added: "We don't want

The college, with its han-mer-beam roof, stained-glass windows and shelves full of dusty books, is now likely to be handed over to barristers or bankers. Bids close on Thursday, with the sale ex-pected to raise over a million pounds.

Sion College was founded to raise the intellectual callibre of City clergy, more recently it has become the haunt of lay scholars such as Enoch Powell. The book collection, which includes 16th century Wycliff manuscript bibles and a rare Jewish Babylonian Tal-mud, is to be split between

Lambeth Palace and King's College, London.
Sion College plans to use the proceeds of the sale to set up a meeting place in one of the City churches, where meals and periodicals will be available.

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Labour faces **Swindon rerun**

CONFIDENTIAL Labour Party report on the parliamentary selection in Swindon North which has pitched a Rover union convenor against an adviser to shadow chancellor Gordon Brown - warns that "there may have been tam-pering with the votes" in a "fundamentally flawed"

The 32-page document sharply criticises the conduct of party officials and clears Jim D'Avila, who is backed by the Amalgamated Engineering and Electrical Union EEU), of all allegations of true", "highly misleading" and "highly damaging".

The argument will now (AEEU), of all allegations of or code of conduct.

Labour's national executive committee will now face the choice of re-running the dismarginal seat or imposing its own candidate when it considers the latest findings at its

meeting tomorrow.

Last month the party report on the selection pro-cess — which Michael Wills, a London television producer and friend of Mr Brown won last September by 114 votes to 84 — after a High Court judge rejected it as unfair to Mr

The judge stopped short of ordering a reballot, but said he did not believe the party could adopt any other course of action. constituency.

The new report recom-mends Mr Wills's selection should not be endorsed. Its authors say that "in clear breach of the procedure, the postal votes were opened in advance of the count" It adds: "Whether or not i

was done innocently [the breach] left the vast bulk of the votes vulnerable to being tampered with."

The report states: "Suffi-cient doubt has been cast by the evidence upon the result of the count to render the reported outcome of that bal-lot unsafe." Criticisms of Mr D'Avila by party officials including the south-west regional secretary — are de-scribed as "inaccurate", "un-

shift at tomorrow's NEC meeting as to whether Labour's interests are best ported by Mr D'Avila and the AEEU — or whether the NEC itself should make the choice. The meeting will also con-sider a report by Unity Ballot-

ing Services on the Glasgow Govan parliamentary selec-tion, in which Glasgow Central MP Mike Watson beat the cash-and-carry businessman Mohammed Sarwar by one vote after 52 ballot papers were declared invalid. The report is understood to have uncovered serious flaws in the process and there is specrerun in the new

'Cupboard' fire safety plan alarms MoD's disabled staff

DISABLED Ministry of Defence employees are alarmed at plans to shut them in "cupboards" if a fire breaks out in offices.

They would be left in fireresistant rooms to await rescue while able-bodied coleagues are evacuated.

Minutes of a meeting on refurbishment of MoD offices in Glasgow state: "There are to be fireproof areas, similar to large cupboards, where dis-abled persons will be placed for safekeeping during a fire." Alf Morris, Labour MP for Wythenshawe and a former inister for the disabled, will ask Michael Portillo, Defence Secretary, for a Commons

He said it was hard to see how the safety of wheelchair users could be ensured. "I am concerned that disabled people left in a blazing build-ing will still be vulnerable."

An MoD spokeswoman insisted that the "sanctuaries" met safety standards. She added: "The use of the word 'cupboards' is unfortunate. They are like normal rooms with windows, but they have smoke-seals and double doors, each of which is worth

"They are part of the emer gency escape staircases. protection from fire. If someone cannot get down the stairs in a hurry, they can go the process and there is spec-ulation the NEC will order a the emergency services." She said these sanctuaries were now standard in office blocks.

| Inother RAF |
|--------------------|
| ircraft |
| rashes |

David Fektall Defence Correspondent

AN RAF Tornado bomber crashed yesterday 20 miles from its base at Brug-gen, in Germany, it was the ninth British military air-craft to be lost this year and prompted renewed calls from the shadow defence secretary. David Clark, for an indepen dent inquiry.

The pilot and navigator of yesterday's crashed GR-1 Turnado sustained minor injuries when they ejected. The aircraft fell in open ground near the village of Issum.

The PAK appropried an im-

The RAF announced an immediate board of inquiry. But Dr Clark argued that in the light of this year's record— seven RAF crashes in as many weeks, plus two involving Royal Navy Sea Harriers — this was inadequate. "What they have at the mo-

ment is an investigation of each accident one by one," he said, "but we need to be looking deeper to see if the RAF and the Royal Navy are suffering from overstretch — if this is the result of pushing men and machines too far."

The nine crashes so far this year, at a total notional cost approaching £200 million, compare with 10 losses in the



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'Horrific catalogue' of sex attacks by man aged 55

14 life sentences for child molester

ses force - ch library

55-YEAR-OLD man who preyed on chil-dren as young as hree in a string of sex attacks over 20 years was vesterday given 14 life

sentences.

Derek Mitchell, a married man, had earlier been found guilty in respect of 20 charges of indecent assault, rape, and serious sexual assault at Cardiff crown court. Passing sen-tence, Judge Martin Stephens said the catalogue of crimes were a horrific breach of

Mitchell, who lived in Splott, Cardiff, and was unemployed, began his abuse in the mid 1970s, putting his aix young victims in fear of their lives if they told of their

His crimes only came to light when one girl reached adulthood and told of her physical and mental torment. A psychiatrist who exam-ined Mitchell said he "posed a grave danger to children for the foreseeable future", the

court heard.
Mitchell was convicted by a jury last November of a series of rapes and sex offences against girls as young as

David Hencke Westminster Corre

HE Insolvency Service has launched an inquiry into a collapsed private

company one of whose direc-

tors is the former head of Cap-

ita Managed Services - the

firm bidding to take over the

Insolvency Service itself.
The disclosure comes as

ministers are expected to an-

nounce on Thursday that

rector and chairman of Cap-

ita Managed Services, resigned seven weeks ago

from the company. He left

after the company had al-ready bid to take over the

running of the Insolvency

m the beardroc

Expats' travails

By Europeans

John Jasper, a former di-

Capita has won its bid.



Derek Mitcheli: Youngest victim was aged three

force himself on her for five years. He also raped one of her I3-year-old schoolfriends. one occasion he encouraged a boy and girl, both aged 11, to

have sex together. Then in December a second jury convicted him of abusing four boys between the ages of three and 10 during the 1980s and 1990s.

He preyed on them for up to five years before the offences came to light. Peter Jacobs, prosecuting in the second trial, said Mitchell "systematically" in-

decently assaulted and had sex with the boys.

Inquiry mars sell-off

He raped one girl when she was just 10, and continued to out in Mitchell's bedroom,

a director, went into liquida-

tion after a government quango, the Commission for

New Towns, petitioned the High Court. Taxpayers are owed nearly £100,000 in un-

paid rent and service charges. The company was wound up a

month ago.

Mr Jasper said yesterday:

"I resigned from Capita for
personal reasons. I was an in-

vestor in Midsummer but did

not play an active part in its

The liquidation of the Mil-

ton Keynes. Buckingham. shire, company has prompted an inquiry by the receivers based at the Northampton office of the Insolvency Ser-

vice. They are checking on all

the directors, including Mr

ervice. Jasper, aged 55, who has O'Neill, Labour chairman of Ten days previously Mid-recently become a director of the Commons trade and in-

summer Computing Ex- a another firm. Lusis Busi- dustry select committee, ask-

each boy being abused in the presence of the others. He threatened to give one young-ster a "good hiding" if he ever told anyone what was happening. The boys maintained their

silence until June last year. Social services were finally called in when a friend be-came concerned about the rude games" being played by the boys.

Judge Stephens said Mitchell's actions were so peverted only life sentences were ap-propriate adding "It can only be wondered what long-term damage you have caused to these children."

Mitchell was given six life sentences for six separate rape attacks on his schoolgirl

He was given a further eight life sentences for the serious sexual attacks on the four young boys. He was given five years for

a serious sexual assault on a girl of 10, three years for indeand two years for indecent as-sault on another girl

He was also jailed for four years for indecent assault on boy of four, six years for indecent assault on a boy of six, and a further three years for another indecent assault

Judge Stephens said the sentences should all run

Lusis has taken over a bir

Midsummer for a US com

for 80 museums, including the

Phillip Oppenheim, the cor-

porate affairs minister, was recommended by his civil ser-vants to split the £40 million

privatisation of the Insol-

vency Service among the three short-listed bidders, in-

A spokesman for the De-partment of Trade and Indus-

try said: "We intend to inter-

Labour's small business spokeswoman, Barbara

Roche, has written to Martin O'Neill, Labour chairman of

Welsh Water

Science Museum

cluding Capita.

view the directors.



Prince's builders branded 'wreckers'

pany of which Mr Jasper was | arm of the privatised utility Maev Kennedy on a complex dispute over | somebody else will develop it or the house will rot, the future of a Georgian house in Dorset | which would be a tragedy." distribution contract from the future of a Georgian house in Dorset pany, Willoughby Associates, to set up a software package and its garden 'of national importance'

> favoured property opment plan. developer, who is building the model village at Poundbury in the open market without Dorset, is involved in a bitter planning dispute over a the Garden History Society Georgian house in the regards its 16-acre garden

nearby town of Bridport. Many national conserva-tion bodies oppose the pro-posals of C G Fry & Co to develop the house and gar-den in the heart of the market town. However, West Dorset district council, as well as English Heritage, regard the proposal as the posing development has only way to preserve

ood, sweat and tyres

HE Prince of Wales's | it breaches the local devel-

planning permission, and as of national importance. "This is an amazingly good garden, and this development will wreck it," said

the society's David Lambert. The Georgian Group and the Victorian Society also back the concern of local residents, and a petition op-

over 1,300 signatures. C G Fry proposes to divthe Grade II*-listed building in to two houses and three flats, and build eight houses in the garden. "We are preserving most of the garden and ensuring the house's future," company director Eddy Fry said. "If we don't get permission In return for planning permission, the firm would restore the house, built in 1789 — which it has agreed to buy from the Snook family, who have owned it for 50 years — and give an eight-acre site on the hill-

Mr Lambert believes the case exposes a breach in the national protection for historic properties, and that the district council and English Heritage — which has statutory responsibility for listed buildings — missed the importance of the garden, which is not on the national register of his-

top behind to the town.

Catherine Searle, who lives in sight of the bouse and has led the local protect this, a listed house, in a conservation area, in an area of outstanding natural ment which is against the local development plan. then what is the point of having any controls?"

toric gardens.



Local resident Catherine Searle, who is fighting the plan

High suicide rates defy jail support schemes

Alan Travis

SIXTY prisoners took their own lives last year, almost the same number as in 1994, despite policies on bullying, selfharm and suicide prevention. The figure released yester-day by the Howard League for Penal Reform also showed

that so far this year 11 in-mates have died inside jails in England and Wales.

Although some progress
was made in the early 1990s
with the Prison Service's "suicide awareness support unit" and the pioneering use of "listener schemes", it ap-pears the number of suicides has returned to the pre-1990

There have been 301 prison suicides since 1990 in England and Wales of which 56 were Prison deaths Number of prison suicides in

England and Wates.

been women. The worst jails have been Liverpool where 16 have died in the past five years; Brixton, south London. which has had 12 deaths and

Norwich with 10. 'It is scandalous." said Frances Crook of the Howard League. "Despite the Prison people aged under 21. They included three 15-year-olds and Service's efforts, the fact three 16-year-olds. Seven of remains that 300 prisoners exthose who have died have perienced such desperation

that they took their own The release of the figures

coincided with the publica-tion of the first results from the use of compulsory drug tests in all 136 prisons in January in which 1,300 inmates tested positive — mainly for cannabis — in the first four weeks. Prisoners found to have used drugs have an average of 12 days added to their sentence.

Those shown to have used illegal drugs represented about two lifths of the inmates who were tested. The National Association of Probation Officers estimates that the Prison Service can expect at least 24,000 inmates a year

to test positive. At each prison about 10 per cent of the inmates are selected at random. In addition suspected users are also ordered to be tested. So far about 8 per cent of those ran-domly chosen have refused to be tested and have faced the penalty of an extra 23 days added to their sentence.

— the film most people thought should have won —

and to Anouk Grinberg as a

prostitute who loves her work in Bertrand Blier's My Man.

There were times when Ber-lin's 46th festival seemed more

World Service iournal faces drastic cuts to stem losses

Andrew Culf Media Correspondent

AMAGAZINE designed to promote BBC World Service radio is facing drastic pruning after sustaining losses of more than £800,000. The 11 staff on BBC Worldwide magazine — a monthly international version of the Radio Times sold by subscrip are facing tion

redundancy. The magazine is to be relaunched in June as a lowcost listings publication.
Although run as a commer cial enterprise, the magazine was funded by the BBC World

in-aid from the Foreign Office.
The BBC launched the magazine in November 1992. Over three years it cost £1.2 million to produce. When losses soared this year by an additional £800.000, partly due to the rising cost of newsprint, the BBC decided the losses

were no longer sustainable.

The scale of the deficit was an embarrassment to the BBC at a time when it has been campaigning against cuts.

A BBC World Service spokeswoman said: "The

magazine is regarded as a very important promotional tool, but we are under a lot of pressure and cannot sustain such a commercial risk."
The relaunched format will

contain the listings for World Service radio and Worldwide TV. but many of its 100-plus feature pages face the axe. The spokeswoman admitted: "There are going to be substantial job losses.

a 55.4 million cut in its 1996-97 budget. It is negotiating with the Foreign Office over fund-ing for 1997-98, but could face £20 million cuts.

The cutbacks come at at time when the World Service has just posted its highest listening figures, with an esti-mated 140 million listeners in more than 100 countries.

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Award for Sense and safety

Derek Malcolm enjoys British successes, with reservations, at Berlin's film festival

sibility has triumphed at the Berlin Film Festival. Directed by Ang Lee of Tai-wan but with a huge British input — not least from Jane Austen - it walked off with the Golden Bear for best film.

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The film, also nominated for a clutch of Oscars, is officially American because it was backed by Hollywood. It could have been made with European money, but it was felt that US cash would assure

MMA Thompson's adaptation of Sense and Sen was booed by the press as too safe a choice. Britain's Richard Lon-

craine shared the director's prize for Richard III with Yim Ho, Chinese director of The Sun Has Ears, which also won the International Critics Award. Britain also won the Children's Film Festival with Chris Bould's My Friend Joe, a co-production with Ireland and Germany.

The performance prizes went to Sean Penn as the con-

Hollywood than Hollywood. John Travolta, star of Get Shorty, arrived by private jet with 12 "professional friends". including hairdresser, make up artist and bodyguard. But away from the gitz, the consistently productive International Forum of Young Films showed one of the festi-

val's finest films: Richard Gordon and Carma Hinton's The Gate of Heavenly Peace, a three hour epic about the it better distribution — a demned murderer in Tim Tiananmen Squar sorry comment on the state of Robbins's Dead Man Walking in Beijing in 1989. Tiananmen Square massacre

reckles river k river k

Jonathan Freedland reports from Washington on the fevered cold-war posturing provoked by Havana's downing of two planes piloted by Cuban-Americans

US poised to punish Cuba anew

relations with Cuba back into the ice of the cold war yesterday as Washington came under intense political pressure to punish Havana for bringing down two small US civilian planes on Satur-day, apparently killing all four Cuban-Americans on

Cuba's president, Fidel Castro, Mr Clinton yesterday spent several hours in talks with his top national security advisers before unveiling measures against Cuba. The White House was ex-

pected to reject calls for mili-tary retaliation, and to consteps, including:

an end to already-limited

air travel from the US; a ban on money transfer presidential support for pending legislation aimed at sharply tightening the 35-year-old US economic em-hargo of the Caribbean island; a suspension of plans to relax travel restrictions to

Cuba and allow US news

bureaux to set up in Havana.

HE United States the United Nations moved to president, Bill Clinostracise President Castro's ton, moved to freeze government, as they convened an urgent session of the security council to condemn what the US ambassador. Madeleine Albright, called a "blatant violation of international law".

> for a 24-hour delay so that Cuba's foreign minister, Roberto Robaina, could make Cuba's case in person.

retary of state, Warren Christopher, of "lying cynically" and said it had "unequivoca proof" that the shootings took place within Cuban air space. Mr Clinton faced heavy pressure to take a hard line. as Republican presidentia

ban-Americans play a critical role, the rightwing firebrand Pat Buchanan said he would "shoot down" Cuban planes that attacked Americans. Senator Robert Dole partially blamed Mr Clinton, saying the episode was due to ex-

Havana lambasted the

The Cuban foreign ministry yesterday accused the US sec-

candidates sought to out-tough each other on the issue. With a primary a fortnight away in Florida, where Cu-

in Florida", and said it had hit the "pirate planes" out of the "sacred and irrefutable earlier raid.

duty to defend [Cuba's]
national sovereignty".

Evoking memories of the
1960 shooting down of a U-2
spy plane — and the capture of
Gary Powers, its pilot — Cuban officials also claimed yesterday to be holding a member of the Miami-based exile group whose planes were

Meanwhile, FBI agents

have gone to the Miami home of Juan Pablo Roques, a fordisappeared several days ago and may be the person being held by Cuba. Havana and Washington

were warned by Cuban air-traffic control they were crossing the 24th parallel, and entering what Cuba considers its air defence zone. The lead pilot acknowledged he was the episode on Saturday in which two Cessna light air-

identify the prisoner as a survivor of the downed aircraft, prompting speculation that he might be a captive from an planes were violating Cuban Brothers to the Rescue by US-based exiles. These included in the patience of the Castro but told the authorities, "We talk patience of the Castro biplication of the patience of the patience of the Castro biplication of the patience of the Castro biplication of the patience of the patience of the Castro biplication of the patience of our right as free Cubans."

Brothers to the Rescue —
Cuban exiles who regularly air space, and were repeatedly warned to stay away. fly over the Florida straits -

Vocal minority... Members of a Cuban-American paramilitary group protest in Miami about the incident in which Cuba downed two US civilian planes - PHOTOGRAPH MARTA LAVANDA

said its pilots had flown over international waters only. A transcript of radio communications released late last Washington said it suspected the group's third Cessna — which returned to Florida unscathed — had entered Cu-ban airspace, but that the downed planes had not. Western diplomats in

by US-based exiles. These in-cluded the dropping of leaflets by planes on two occasions last month, and a couple of attempted invasions by sea one on a shrimp boat stuffed full of weapons.

"These violations have been produced numerous times despite repeated warnings that they would not be tolerated and that our patience has a

Diplomats suspect a new disregard for international nearly 18 months in which he has curried favour abroad

Earlier this month, the vice-president of the European Commission, Manuel Marin, was in Havana out-lining the reforms Cuba qualify for an economic cooperation treaty with the EU.

Aegean rivals

John Palmer in Brusseis

HE European Union last night refused a Greek government appeal to throw its clear political sup-port behind Athens in its dissmall, uninhabited islands in the Aegean which threatened to escalate last month into armed confrontation.

Instead EU foreign ministers meeting in Brussels appealed to both countries to show "restraint" and to resolve their territorial conflict through the International Court of Justice.

After disagreeing over the precise wording of a proposed declaration, the ministers merely authorised the Italian presidency of the European Union to make a verbal declaration. The British govern-ment among others insisted that Greece should abandon its veto on a £250 million aid package for Turkey agreed when the EU signed a customs union agreement with

Turkey last month. However, the Greek foreign minister, Theodore Pangalos. would agree to reconsider the issue of financial aid for Turkey only when a new govern-ment is formed in Anakara. "We will expect a clear declaration from the new Turkish government that it will not make any threatening or warlike statements against Greece," one Greek diplomat

want to meet the new Turkish government as soon as it takes office to finalise the aid

"I am planning to complete a coalition protocol with the True Path Party (DYP) by the agreement. There is intense irritation in other EU capitals with the way Greece has used its dispute with Turkey to block closer EU relations

of the European parliament elections.

have criticised the decision to ratify the customs union with Turkey while there are continuing human rights viola-tions in the Turkish state's against Kurdish war

EU to get embroiled in the tit for tat propaganda war being waged by Greece and Turkey

over the Imia islets.
"We believe that the European Union made clear and ernment has no right to call these into question now," one British official said last night. Another diplomat said that the friction between the two Nato allies in the eastern Mediterranean "provides the worst possible example - for instance to the states of the former Yugoslavia — about

how disputes between democ-racies should be resolved." Mr Pangalos put the best face last night on the res-ponse of the other EU countries to his appeal for support. "The Greek govern-ment has said that it has no objection to this issue being resolved by the international court in The Hague. Now the EU has said the same thing."

 Mesut Yilmaz, leader of the conservative Motherland day he planned to form a co-alition government with the caretaker prime minister, Tansu Ciller, by the weekend

weekend ... and present a cabinet list to the president," Mr Yilmaz said after briefing President Suleyman Demirel.

Turkey's three biggest parties have been in coalition On the other hand members talks since the December

Restraint plea to Scavengers stalk the ruins of Serbian Sarajevo

Julian Borger meets at close range the brutal armed gangs who prey on the sick and old in the city's abandoned suburbs

■HE pistol twitched be-tween my face and Mirup its own mind. Its owner's could shoot one, both or neither of us. But he alone would make the decision.

Mirko, our translator, had been keeping up a gentle stream of reassurance. These to provide financial aid to Turkey, and the Greek government has no winds and to Serbs. They had always the suffering of the painfully aware of their plight, and wanted the world to see it through Serb eyes. When the gun had come out,

away.

"Fuck all of you," the gun-man said in a final, contemp-tuous dismissal. He turned around and walked back to his cafe followed by his young henchmen, who looked back to ensure we were leaving as

Serb Sarajevo. The negotiareprieve are over. Most of the local politicians and the police have commandered trucks and driven away, leav-ing behind the lawless wreckage of a society.

age of a society.

Vogosca has already been handed over to the Federation. police. In Hadzici, Grbavica, Ilidza and Ilijas, (due to be transferred over the next Serbs. They had always been | three weeks) the exodus is accelerating, with the help of Serb army trucks under Nato escort. Soon the only people left will be the brave, the old Mirko's lips had continued to move, but the words died who prey on them.

Armed bands known as trojkas roam the suburbs,

named after the partisans of the 1940s who administered justice in groups of three judge, jury and executioner. They loot and torch aban-doned businesses and ransack the homes of anyone who is

termined to make the most of the power vacuum. The only Serb policemen within two

flats around us were built around the time of the Sara-jevo Winter Olympics. Now they were empty and gutted. We were talking to yet another sad, hopeless family loading everything they had into a little wooden trailer. They had no idea where they were going. Eight would probably sleep in their tiny Yugo-slev car on the side of a snow-

better, they said, than waiting for the "Muslim police". resignation. The terror only jevo government arguing for surfaced when they saw the the multi-ethnic Bosnia so trojka closing in on us. They | hated by Serb rebels. Mirko | Serb Sarajevo.

Intending to stay behind.

The drunk, grey-bearded serb who had tumbled out of an unlit case to stride jerkly through the snow towards us had recruited ex-soldiers determined to make the most of the miles were at the other end of town loading all the furniture they could find on to a truck. He was convinced Mirko hast-

Nato peacekeeping force were anywhere to be seen, leaving this gang lords of what was left of Hadzici. Most of the modern brick

changed tack. "It says here you're from Sarajevo. You've clogged road, but it would be

They told their story with

Mirko's face. The wooden butt of his pistol hung lazily from the unzipped pocket of

pointing out the Serb sur-name. The gunman only

Local police have gone, leaving the lawless wreckage of a society

been sent by Pejanovic," he said, jabbing his finger into Mirko's chest. Mirko Pejanovic is the leader of the Serbs who remained loyal to the Sara-

here, and now I'm going to leave with nothing. What do they say to that?" when one of his sidekicks shouted to him. He had seen

bombed us. I had three houses

my American colleague ask-ing the refugee family for their names. This was too much for Greybeard. He swung round, pulled his gun out of his pocket and staggered back towards us. He reached me nationalists in Mostar last and Mirko first and the black month, will stay until the EU pistol swung up at our faces. finds a successor. He swore at us in an unbro-ken crescendo, to which there

seemed to be only one possible climax.

But the gun fell to his side pires at the end of July. and he walked away, dis-gusted at all of us. We drove back to Sarajevo watching the

THE German appointed mayor of Mostar by the European Union, Hans Koschnick, resigned yesterday after warning that Croat extremthe international agreement guaranteeing freedom of movement and the unity of the ethnically-divided city, writes John Palmer in

Mr Koschnick, a former mayor of Bremen, who was physically attacked by Croat

EU foreign ministers said they had not yet decided whether to continue the EU mission in Mostar when it ex-Several agreed with the peace envoy, Carl Bildt, that the influence of extremist procession of Serb refugees

flash past the car's windows

the slow, painful suicide of and stability were to



Widow and Sharon Stone play the devil with Clouzot remake

Paul Webster in Paris

THERE is an unexpected twist to the American remake of les Diaboliques, had plagiarised the the most terrifying of French murder films.
Sharou Stone, who plays - Simone Signoret's role, a magazine at my hair-

Simone Signoret: starred in Clouzot's 1954 hit

says she is ashamed to have taken part in the US ver-slon, which a lawsuit may

that she had started legal the husband, who is the remake—action to ban the remake, supposed victim. The town of lealining that the producer, remake was shot in secret, retitled D Morgan Creek, and the director, Jeremiah Chechick.

dressers," she said.
"I hold the rights, but silon, which a lawsuit may prevent from being premiered at the Cannes festival.

Henri-Georges Ciouzot's
1954 classic was an international success. His second reworked the novel. In the tional success. His second reworked the novel. In the Isabelle Adjani, said on wife, Inès, said yesterday original it is the wife, not French television that the

but from photographs in Première the US version is inspired by Clouzot's origi-nal sets: the school, the swimming pool and the

hath." Mrs Clouzot, who wears her husband's pipe on a chain around her neck, said she had recently been of-fered a pittance in compenaction would seek a world-

wide ban. Ms Stone, who stars with

set in her home town of Pittsburgh and retitled Diabolique — had not been a happy experience. She was ashamed that her name was attached to a dubious deal. Nevertheless, the out-

come is unlikely to be as tragic as the original production. Clouzot's first wife, Vera, who also starred in the film, plotting the death of her celluloid husband Paul Meurisse. died of a heart attack soon afterwards — the fate she narrowly escapes in the shock ending to the picture's tortuous plot.



Sharon Stone: ashamed of

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Reckless Arab driver killed by irate Israelis

Mandela's plea wins reprieve as Paris tries to stop EU's efforts to free inter-regional commerce

S Africa escapes French trade threat

Derek Brown in Jerusalem

N ARAB-AMERICAN motorist who lost con-trol of his car and ploughed into a bus queue on a busy Jerusalem road yester-day was shot dead by Israeli

One Israeli woman was struck by the car and killed. The bizarre tragedy came in the traumatic aftermath of the two attacks on Sunday by Islamist suicide bombers, in which 27 people died.

First reports of yesterday's incident suggested that there had been another militant attack. One account had the car colliding with a bus on the main road north of the city centre at French Hill, one of the boundaries between the Jewish and Palestinian communities of Jerusalem. Within minutes, a buge

fleet of ambulances, fire engines and police vehicles rushed towards the incident. The crashed car, a black Fiat hired from a Palestinian firm in East Jerusalem, was checked by bomb disposal ex-perts, but nothing was found. As traffic jams built up, details became clearer. The

dead driver, not yet named, turned out to be a citizen of the United States of Palestinian origin, on a family visit to Ramallah, north of

He was heading along a sec-tion of the six-lane road notorious for reckless driving, and seemed to have been travelling at high speed. Police later found long skid-marks on the road surface, indicat-ing that the driver had lost

whom routinely carry li-censed firearms. Last night, a police spokesman, Eric Bar-Chen. said that after the car slammed into the crowd, the driver got out and assaulted a paramilitary policeman. "At that point civilians, thinking the driver was a terrorist, shot and killed him," he said. As well as the two people who died in the incident, 22 Israelis were injured in the

The incident grated on Jerusalem's nerves, already scraped raw by Sunday's hor-

died in the suicide bombing of a crowded commuter bus on one of the city's main streets. Another Israeli died when a human bomb exploded at a bus stop used by hitch-hiking soldiers outside the city of Ashkelon. More than 50 people were wounded in the blasts, responsibility for which was claimed by the militant wing of the blasts. by the militant wing of the big-gest Islamist group in Pales tine, Hamas.

Yesterday as Israel buried its dead, the prime minister. Shimon Peres, told the Knes-Snimon Peres, told the Knesset (parliament) that the self-rule Palestinian Authority headed by Yasser Arafat, must act against Islamist mil-itants based in the autono-mous parts of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. There would be maller to the strategies. be no value to the majority which Mr Arafat won in January's Palestinian elections, if an armed minority under-

mined the authority.
"The Palestinian Authority must decide to disarm the terrorists or risk endangering its authority." Mr Peres said. The Authority must outlaw those who act contrary to the law, as the agreement be-tween us requires. "The Palestinian Authority

must do its part, we will do ours. We will not halt the peace process — we will con-tinue with it. At the same time, we will take all appropriate means in order to strike at terrorists everywhere, both before and after they commit their criminal actions Mr Peres said that the latest

closure of Israel's borders with the West Bank and Gaza would continue "as long as is required from a security standpoint". Tens of thou-sands of Palestinians, mostly The road is heavily used by day labourers, have again lost Jewish settlers, many of their livelihoods.

Security sources have hinted that the closure, imposed in the immediate wake of Sunday's bombings, could last for months, until after the Israeli election on May 29.

Critics of the government are now questioning the relaxation. They say it was known Hamas militants were eager to avenge Yayha Ayyash, the top bomb maker killed on January 6, almost certainly by Israeli agents. In Gaza yesterday, Palestin-

ian police continued to round up known Hamas activists. At least 20 are now in custody.

John Palmer in Brussels

RANCE launched a big political offensive yesterday to slow down the proliferation of free trade agreements be-tween the European Union and other global regions. But after appeals from President Nelson Mandela and EU leaders it agreed to drop a threatened veto of an agreement with South Africa.

The agreement is seen as the linchpin of the EU strat-egy to bolster post-apartheid South Africa and the development of a southern African regional customs union involving several neighbouring states. After four hours of de-bate in Brussels EU foreign ministers were finalising a compromise last night, under

which negotiations with Pretoria for a free trade agree-ment could begin while the wider implications of such agreements are studied in greater detail.

"France is willing on this occasion to make a special ex-ception for South Africa, because of the obvious political considerations," the French foreign minister, Hervé de Charette, said. The French government

has made no secret of its fear that the spread of free trade agreements is making it more difficult to contain the rise of unemployment in Europe. But the force of its attack on the commission's plans for agreements with Mexico and South Africa took other gov ernments by surprise.
Its ambassador to the EU,

attacked the strongly free trade policies of the European trade commissioner and former British minister Sir Leon gentina — and it is consider-

In an apparent attempt to limit the diplomatic fallout, the French European affairs

minister, Michel Barnier, ating a Euro-Mediterranear tactfully and briefly left the free trade zone within 18

We are devaluing our world trade

relations. France has to take a stand . . to do a global evaluation' room, returning only when Mr De Bolssieu had finished. "Where is the commission leading us, free trade with the years. But it was a proposed

agreement with Mexico which triggered the French whole world?" one diplomat quoted Mr De Boissieu as ask-

ble of understanding French logic," Mr De Boissieu de-

ing whether to negotiate a similar agreement with the

It is also committed to cre

United States.

ment officials claimed that the commission had "not done its homework" to dis cover whether such regional pacts would be acceptable to the new World Trade

We are devaluing our world trade relations. [France] has to take a stand , to do a global evaluation of

Replying to the French gov-ernment, Sir Leon said the World Trade Organisation be-lieved that regional trade agreements were "broadly positive". But commission officials conceded last night that the whole issue of global free trade agreements would now have to be studied more

"We can accept some of the

clared. Later French govern- | dangers of such agreements,'

whether or not these argu ments are a cover for a lurch back to more protec-tionist policies. If so, that would have considerable implications.

Although no other EU gov-ernment explicitly backed the French stand yesterday, there is concern about the pace of global free trade at a time when there are still 18 million

"This is maybe the start of a very profound debate about the limits of free trade in the modern world," one diplomat

said. "Everyone wants to help democracies such as South Africa. But the fashion for free

1 Sarajevo

Extremists or operation LU missor



A man lies dead after Bangladeshi police opened fire on bundreds of protesters who tried to set fire to a railway signal system near Dhaka yesterday. Three were killed and more than 50 injured on the third day of a country-wide protest called by opposition parties. The protest has been extended until tomorrow PHOTOGRAPH: PAVEL RAHMAN

Harare muzzies weekly voice

Andrew Moldrum in Harare

■IMBABWE'S press has been firmly muzzled to Eprevent criticism of President Robert Mugabe, just three weeks before presidential elections.

The weekly Financial Gazette, the leading indepen-dent newspaper, has abandoned its anti-government stance under financial and political pressure.

Despite the Financial Gazette's new policy, the Muup its campaign against the paper. The state-controlled Zimbank has reportedly refused to reschedule its

Two front page stories in

Ginger & Arthritis

should know about a new book The Complete Arthritis Hundbook This book, which won the Nurofen Pain Relief Award, contains the latest up-to-date information on arthritis, including the newest natu-ful and medical breakthroughs for a wide range of rheumatoid and osteoarthritis problems.
It covers such diverse aspects

as what foods doctors recommend you cat... and which ones to avoid, the effect of vitamins and which drugs the experts recommend. There is also a special section on devices and godgets which can help, organisations you can turn to and other contacts that can help - together with their addresses and telephone numbers. There's even a section cov-ering old wives' tales, folklore and other unusual information.

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paper have predicted the col-lapse of the Financial Gazette by June. The articles are seen as warnings to the business community to refuse assistance to the paper. Because all Zimbabwe's

daily newspapers, radio and television are state owned, the loss of the Financial Gazette's independent voice leaves it with no regular critical view of the government. Last week the publisher

any quarter to shield Presi-dent Mugabe from criticism are misguided and prejudicial to effective journalism". Mr Wetherell's resignation

Maseru control tower repor-tedly replied that President Nelson Mandela of South Af-rica must land first because

and withdrew its offer.
Coverage of the presidential race in the state-owned media amounts to slavish reporting of President Mugabe's speeches. Only the most scanty and partisan cov-erage is granted to the opposition candidates. Bishop Abel Muzorewa and the Rev Ndabaning Sithole. The Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation has also hanned coverage of the independent MP Marga-

told reporters not to write about "personalities", partic-ularly that of the president. The paper scrapped its wildly popular "Muckraker" column, a wickedly witty send-up of the government. The assistant editor, Iden Wetherell, resigned last week, saving that "attempts from

editor, Trevor Ncube, because he published a Reuters story last month which showed President Mugabe in an unfavourable light. The story, from Maseru, Lesotho, stated that President Mugabe de-manded his plane be permit-ted to land immediately. The

his plane arrived first. The Financial Gazette pub lisher, Elias Rusike, has seen his newspapers crumble in the face of government oppo-sition. The Daily Gazette. which exposed corruption scandals, folded last year and the Sunday Gazette close earlier this month. The papers were widely read but advertisers shied away for fear of losing government contracts. Mr Rusike sought new financial backers. One potential investor, South Afripotential investor, south Air-ca's Times Media Ltd, was blocked by the government from buying more than 25 per cent of the publishing house

Tribal strife racks Zaire's refugee-packed border Ethnic tension, witchcraft and primitive weapons lie in wait for troops drafted in from the capital, writes Greg Barrow in Sake

ing extra troops to Masisi province in the east, where it believes that Hutu refugees from neighbouring Rwanda are in-flaming ethnic tension with the native Hunde people and disrupting agricultural production in the region, which was once Zaire's

Hunde, Hutu and Tutsi communities have been raiding each other's villages and engaging in vi-cious battles with little more than spears, machetes and bows and arrows.

being systematically looted, and the meat from being stolen cattle is being sold for knock-down prices in the Rwandan refugee camps. The International Committee of the Red Cross, one of the few relief agencies still working in Masisi, estimates that al-

Farms and ranches which once fed cities as far away from Goma and Goma is a as the capital Kinshasa are very civilised modern town. but in Masisi there's real tribal fighting going on. The people look like warriors from another age, and they're targeting everyone: tiny children, women and even old people." Relief agencies, already

Cross. one of the few relief agencies, salready agencies still working in Masisi, estimates that almost half the region's 600,000 people are now displaced from its homes.

"It's a very, very brutal conflict," says Piera Borradori, an ICRC official in Masisi to Rwanda, Many of

them belong to families which have lived in Zaire since colonial boundaries were drawn a century ago. Now they have decided that their adopted home is too dangerous.

They say the situation has deteriorated drastically since Rwandan Hutu refu-gees arrived in Goma. Hundes and Tutsis in Masisi accuse Hutus of collaborating with members of the former Rwandan army and interahamwe militia which led the 1994 geno-cide. Officials say that for-mer soldiers and militiamen in the Goma refugee camps know they cannot stay for ever and are look-ing for places to settle in

The Hutu people who country of their birth." have been living in Masisi have joined forces with

in a makeshift shelter of "I know very well that the former Rwandan mili-tary and the interahamwe want to take over Masisi

Rwanda," he says.
"It's highly regrettable to
see the Rwandan Hutu militia bringing their ethnic
strife here and making the

and make it an annexe of

The government hopes to solve the problem by puttheir brothers from ting more troops in the Rwanda," says Mateka region, but few soldiers are keen to go there. Last week was forced to flee his village in Masisi. He now lives | rived in Goma in 22 pieces, in a makeshift shelter of and many other soldiers palm leaves and bamboo in have met a similar fate.

a church compound in Sake, a town on the edge of Masisi province.

"I know you have a substitute of the opposition, Hunde and Hutu fighters are using witchcraft. Aid workers report seeing fighters wearing banana fronds and fetishistic necklaces of human hands. Such stories circulate widely and troops drafted in from the rather more sophisticated Kinshasa are expressing little desire to confront the Hunde people suffer in the terror in the bush.

News in brief

Equatorial Guinea president | Egypt publishes | Secret police romps home in 'farcical' poll Gadafy stories

RESIDENT Teodoro Obiang Nguema has claimed more than 99 per cent of the vote in Equatorial Guinea's controversial presi-dential poll, writes Chris With more than half the

With more than nan the votes counted, opposition candidates dismissed the result as a farce and accused the president of manipulation, in-

rarely picked up more than a handful of votes at each vot-ing station. At some, there was not a single ballot for Mr Obiang's opponents. At others, more votes were counted than there were registered electors.

The five opposition candididates dismissed the result as a farce and accused the president of manipulation, intimidation and fraud.

In the capital, Malabo, where the opposition won last year's municipal elections, it

Violence mars Sierra Leone vote

20 years of military or one-

In the capital, Freetown, mortar explosions and heavy gunfire were heard coming from army harracks. In Bo. rocket-propelled grenades forced all but two of 55 polling been wrecked by fiv stations to close. Shooting civil war. Reuter.

VIOLENCE disrupted multi-party elections in Sierra Leone yesterday to end nearly ries, but residents in Bo said the aim appeared to be to

scare off voters.
Vast but orderly queues had formed early at polling stations in the West African country, whose economy has been wrecked by five years of

EGYPTS state-run publishing house has printed 100,000 copies of a book by the Libyan leader, Colonel Muammar Gadafy, extolling rural life, for sale during the Cairo book fair.

"Gadafy's name will make the book sell very well," Samir Sarhan, director of the Egyptian General Book Authority, said.

The book, a collection of the stories were sellected.

Catherine Bennett

short stories, praises rural life, where people can culti-vate the land and admire sunsets and other natural beauty. — AP.

'caused blast' Albania's president, Sall

Berisha, yesterday blamed a car bomb blast which killed four people and injured 30 on the country's former secret police — the first act of politi-cal violence since the fall of communism in 1990.

"This is the most terrible terrorist act," Mr Berisha told Albanian radio. "This is a fascist act organised by the forces of the former secret

police."
The bomb, thought to contain 110lb of explosives, was parked outside a store owned by one of Albania's biggest concerns in Tirana. — Reuter. In an come from pointeau donations, but the former general vowed to protect the identities of those who benefited from his billion-dollar political concerns.

A chain of triumphant demolitions, starting at the

some fizz and excitement into the proceedings.

stroke of midnight 1999, could be just the thing to put

the Afrikaner town of Potgietersrus that was forced to admit blacks has suspended plans to fight the decision through South Africa's highest court, officials in Johannesburg said yesterday. — Reuter.

A former whites-only school in

Chun denies graft South Korea's former presi-

taking bribes on the opening day of his corruption trial in Seoul yesterday, saying a vast fortune he amassed in office had come from political dona-

Whites back down | cal slush fund after he left office. — Reuter.

Envoys return

Nigeria's military government yesterday formally welcomed back ambassadors recalled by their home governments last November in protest at the hanging of nine Ogoni minority rights activists, state radio reported. -- Reuter.

Carlos's wife freed Prosecutors in Berlin confirmed yesterday that they had dropped all charges in connection with bomb attacks in Germany and France against Magdalena Kopp, the estranged wife of the interna-

tional guerrilla "Carlos the Jackal". — Reuter. Car insurance over £300?

Call Admiral now 0800 600 800 **A**DMĪRAĻ

The Guardian

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Scott has the final word

At last, a serious discussion of the issues he raised

the Commons debate on the Scott report yesterday will rightly conclude that it was an overwhelming moral and intellectual victory for Parliament over the over-mighty executive. Or, to put it more accurately, that it was a victory for the Scott inquiry process itself. For the most striking feature of the debate yesterday was the divide between those MPs from all parties who talked seriously about the Scott report, and those, principally those who spoke for the Government, who simply did not.

Ever since the report was published ten days ago the Government have consistently attempted to avoid any serious discussion of the content of the Scott report. That was why they launched the report in the highly selective and manipulative manner that they did. It is why they allocated only one day for yesterday's debate when there should have been two. It is why they have ensured that the Opposition should have no say in Commons business this week. It is why the Prime Minister played no part in yesterday's debate. It is why they have persisted ever since with the absurd pretence that Scott was an inquiry into Opposition charges, not Government conduct; and a judgment on the behaviour, not of Government ministers, but of Opposition shadow spokesmen. And it reached its logical climax yesterday in a speech from the President of the Board of Trade which barely quoted from the report in any way and which dealt with the matters arising from Scott in only the most unspecific way.

Having decided that they could not expect to win the argument about ministerial responsibility in the arms for Iraq affair, the Government's tactic yesterday was to speak at elaborate length but in extraordinarily vague terms

DO NOT let the closeness of the result | about the changes which will now folof last night's vote between the parties low from the report. Many of these had deceive. Anyone listening to or reading been announced or foreshadowed earlier, but Ian Lang tried to present them one more time yesterday as a constructive and emollient response to the Scott findings. There will be discussions about the way parliamentary questions on arms exports are handled. The Government will participate in a select committee inquiry into ministerial ac-countability. The supervision of Customs and Excise prosecutions will be tightened. The use of public interest immunity certificates will be looked at once again. In other words, after three years of inquiry into the whole process of government and an enormous investigative effort by Scott, the Government have barely come up with a single substantive and definite measure of reform. This does not add up to a serious response to the issues or the findings, as Richard Shepherd pointed out in a powerful and moving speech from the Conservative backbenches.

In Parliament yesterday Mr Lang played it deliberately low key. That has been the strategy all along, and it has been a rotten-minded dereliction of the government's responsibility. The issues are too serious for that, and the situation called for powerful and honest assault. It got it from Robin Cook, whose demolition of the Government's case was masterly and wholly based in serious argument Mr Cook showed yesterday, as he has showed throughout this whole saga, that he is Tony Blair's most valuable parliamentary asset. More than half a century ago, dis-gruntled Conservatives called on Labour to "speak for England" in the nation's hour of need. As a Scotsman Mr Cook cannot be expected to do that. But when the moment came he spoke for people of all parties yesterday though sadly for too few Conservatives - and we are all in his debt for that.

Laughing all the way from the bank

Profits are booming at a time when corporate investment is static

no longer accompanied by job creation. on a credit card, the clearing banks will therefore come as no surprise that Midland Bank raised its profits by 10 per cent last year (to almost £1 billion) while shedding five per cent (2,328) of for acquisitions). This pattern is likely to be repeated during the week when other high street clearing banks publish their results since the surge of rationalisation, which has cost 100,000 jobs during the past six years, has yet to run its course.

None of this makes it any easier to be a public relations officer for a bank. Banks get criticised for inefficiency when they make losses and for profiteering when they make big profits. In the past consumers and small businesses felt they were being made scapegoats for the banks' sorry history of discovering new sources of bad risks (like dodgy governments, property com-panies and overstretched home owners) to which they could lend money. The longest running grievance is the interest rates charged by banks for loans. If you lend money to the banks, most of surplus funds on take-over bids before a from 0.50 per cent (for up to £500) to 3.20 | them. Short-termism is still alive and

WE HAVE now entered an era - as take advantage of one of the Govern-Lord Desai reminded us in the Lords | ment's tax-exempt schemes. Yet if you last week — in which wealth creation is I want to borrow the same amount back. This has long been true in manufacture still charge you anything up to 25 per ing industry but now it is a regular | cent for the privilege despite the fact occurence in the City as well. It should I that inflation has dropped to under 3 per cent. With a credit card charge of 25 per cent, the real rate of interest (after allowing for inflation of 2.9 per cent) is an astounding 22.1 per cent, or nearly its staff. Abbey National also boosted its | eight times the rate of inflation. If that profits by 10 per cent to £1 billion while | doesn't count as usury it is difficult to only shedding 200 jobs (after allowing know what does. The banks might argue that they need to charge a lot because of the bad debts incurred on credit cards - though that begs the question whether defaults would be so high if interest rates were lower.

The other disconcerting thing about bank profits is that they are booming at a time when corporate investment is static. According to the latest GDP figures gross fixed capital formation in the whole economy was zero in the second half of last year (and manufac-turing investment fell by 9 per cent in the final quarter). However, in this case the banks may not be to blame. True, they have plenty of money to lend, but companies are also flush with cash themselves thanks to a 160 per cent rise in gross trading profits since 1991. Companies in general (including banks) are much more interested in spending their them will pay you interest ranging Labour administration clamps down on per cent (on 90-day notice) unless you | well despite the boom in profits.

Provocation and folly over Cuba

Shooting planes is wrong. So is pursuing a cold-war vendetta-

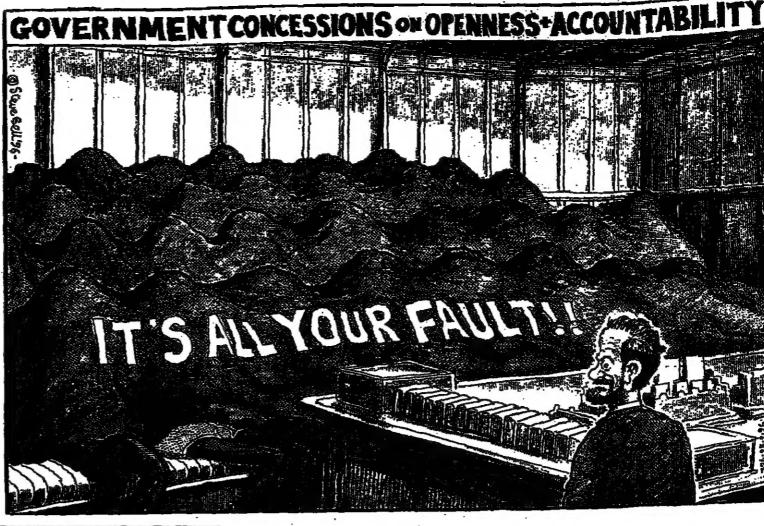
SHOOTING DOWN civilian planes Cuban airspace. Twice before he and must always be wrong, particularly his pilots have dropped leaflets over when there is no possible question of Havana urging the Cuban people to rise misidentification. For the Cuba govern- up against Fidel Castro. That was no ment to take such action now, as the US humanitarian action but plain incitepresidential campaign gets under way, is also an act of great folly. But it is hard to have any sympathy for the exiles who on Saturday put themselves provocatively in the way of danger.

US monitoring agencies confirm that all three planes from the anti-Castro group "Brothers to the rescue" entered the Cuban air defence identification zone and were warned by Cuban air traffic control that it would be dangerous to proceed further. Within 20 minutes at least one plane had penetrated into Cuban airspace. There is a dispute over whether the two planes shot down also crossed the 12-mile limit, but they were wilfully heading that way.

The surviving pilot and leader of the

ment to rebel which provoked the Cuban government to issue a threat against any private planes violating their airspace in future. The Federal Aviation Administration responded by threatening to revoke Mr Basulto's pilot license: but as so often the US authorities appear to have backed off curbing the exiles.

None of this excuses the Cuban action which was quite disproportionate to the offence. But it illustrates the tragedy of a situation where Cuba has been victimised for so long by its giant neighbour. There are real issues to discuss such as refugees, trade, and nuclear power. To pursue this cold war vendetta is as counter-productive as the group, Jose Basulto, is no stranger to latest Cuban response.



Letters to the Editor

political mind

REGARDING your article on Denis Thatcher (Dear Bill: gin-soaked halfwit was all a ruse, February 26), I was at Mill Hill School with Denis in the 1930s. His universal nickname was "Wetty". Griff Thomas. Keldwith Drive, Windermere, Cumbria LA23 1RQ.

VERY belatedly, your quote ascribed to me about Senior Minister Lee Kuan Yew of Singapore — "A nasty little man" — came to my attention (Singapore salutes Blair, January 9). Not only have I never said anything like that, but Lee Kuan Yew is a good friend and, more important, I respect his tremendous achiev Henry A Kissinger. 350 Park Avenue

YOUR report (Rival candi-date threat hits Labour hopes, February 26) says I am "threatening to sabotage the Labour Party's hopes of winning Exeter at the next elec-tion" unless the party drops John Lloyd. I confirm that I propose to stand should the NEC reaffirm its endorse-ment of Mr Lloyd; but it is the NEC's endorsement alone that puts the seat at risk.

82 Vandon Court, Petty France London SW1H 9HG.

OU report that "the Lib-I eral Democrats would like [Peter Thurnham] to be their (February 24). Which Liberal Democrats? I have heard no member of our local party suggest that he should be our candidate. We already have an excellent prospective candidate, democratically selected, and no other candidemocratically date will be imposed on us. John Horne.

Chairman, Westmortand and Lonsdale Liberal Democrats. Shammies, Lickharrow Close. Windermere, Cumbria LA23 2NF.

SINCE many religious ex-perts now believe that Christ was born in 4 BC, should not the Millennium Fund be paying out this year? 175 The Greenway, Ickenham

Uxbridge, Middx UB10 aLT. Final words

ULIA Hartley-Brewer (Letters, February 26) continues deliberately to mislead your readers. The fact that I asked her to write to your paper does not excuse her dis-closing material to Matthew Norman in the first place for use in his spiteful and abu-sive vendetta against one of her own sources. There is nothing wrong with my mem ory, as she impertinently suggests, but a great deal wrong with her journalistic ethics.
(Dr.) Julian Lewis. Conservative Research Department, 32 Smith Square,

London SW1P SHHL ONCE Jarvis Cocker of Pulp proves he can sing as sweetly and dance as beau-tifully as Michael Jackson, then and only then will he be allowed to play Allah who comes to save us from Jesus.

The Devil's Advocate's hot seat is ready for him anytime. Darcus Howe. 112 Mayall Road, London SE24 OP.J.

NSOFAR as one can ascer-tain from reports, Jarvis Cocker seems to have made two demands and asked a question — the two demands being "Look at me!" and "Look at me backside!" and the question being. Why are you wathching this when I'm here?" Impressive. John Junkin. Juson's Glebe, Wendover. Bucks.

Insights into the Replies to a wedding invitation

idea of a \$5,000 "dowry" themselves to tie the knot? child-bearing in the Bever for (married) couples is if Labour wants to help idge report. The reforms harmy (The super soaraway strategy, February 24).

• Will it be £2,500 each or £5,000 together? If the "marriage" breaks up, will an un-married future partner of one be aligible for his/her £2.500? Unless the Mandelson/Lid-dle/Blair vision also involves women giving up work when they get married, marriage is a moment when money becomes less tight — when liv-ing expenses fall because they are shared. Couples without children are amongst the rich-est groups in the country; • The proposal is an incentive to get married, not to stay married: low-income people may be tipped into doomed

 What happens when one spouse's family is above the means test and the other's be-£2.500?

• The intrusion and bureaucracy involved in means test ing six individuals severally and jointly (four perents and two newly-weds) do not bear thinking about,

• What about the myriads whose better-off parents do not give them a penny or attach unacceptable strings to any gift? Will newly-weds to take their parents to court to get it?

• What about couples who object to marriage, and couples who have suffered so much from their parents' div
| TFTY years ago Lord Bev| Simon-Peter Trimare | Simon-Peter Trim

If Labour wants to help keep parents together — a much more justifiable objective for government than promoting marriage - why doesn't it simply offer 25,000 to those who are poor and have stayed together for three years after the birth of a child? Those are the times when the money is really tight, and marital stress at its height. An allowance for parenting (taxable as part of the recipient's income) would do

Mary Campbell. Grange House, Highbury Grange London N5 2QD.

COULD anyone explain how bribing people to get married underpins moral values? As someone who brought up a child on my own, I am pleased to say my morally sound 24-year-old daughter would never allow cupidity to sway her in any major deci-sion. It's not the shift from the traditional nuclear family which has left people bereft o a sense of decent values, but the belief that love of money is the only viable driving force of progress. Sue Beardon.

Sheffield \$7 1DU.

child bearing in the Bever-idge report. The reforms which were implemented. such as maternity grants, maternity benefit for those in work, family allowance etc, were an attempt to "put a pre-mium on marriage, in place of penalising it". They went some way to alleviating hardship, particularly for women and children, yet the divorce rate continued to climb. It seems that people will live on the breadline with their child-

A "severance payment" or divorce would be more useful for it would stave off depriva-tion for a while. Una Freeley.

ren rather than stay in a bad

82 Park Avenue South, London N8 8LS. As THOSE of us who have not reached the nirvana of heterosexual coupledon can testify, it is equally diffi-cult for the single to set up home. We too have food, gas. electricity, water and phone bills and we too pay tax. I see it as my duty to con-tribute towards the education

and welfare of children de-spite being childless; towards hospital care for the long-term sick despite being well; but I would not wish to contribute towards this unworkable and divisive scheme.

GIVE us a break. The Blair Revolution? After this particular revolution. we will

continue to have:

• Nuclear weapons which, if unleashed, will result in global omnicide. Any prospective leader prepared to continue to the continue to have: template this is not fit to

govern;
• A thriving international arms trade. It was Labour, after all, which set up the quaintly titled Defence Sales Organisation. And it was David Owen, as Labour Foreign Secretary, who signed the first deal for the sale of Hawk aircraft to Indonesia. for which the East Timorese population remain eternally

grateful; • A hereditary head of state. No government that was remotely democratic would tolerate this.

· Rampant capitalism. The City is unconcerned by a prospective Labour victory, for Labour's position is that there is now no alternative to capitalism. Charles Arthurs.

Court Cottages. Painswick 1 4 1 Glos GL6 6QS.

WOULD be interested to know whether Mr Mandel-son includes gay and lesbian couples in his plan for a pub-lic dowry to support "commit-Jamie Elliott. Josephine Avenue.



Fertile ground for debate

reduction in the sperm counts of men born after 1970 compared with those born before 1959 (British males losing 2pc of sperm count every year, February 23). I began to think about what was unique to

I couldn't be led down the venues of smoking, alcohol, and the environment because my mind kept homing in on the sixties. What happened then? What was so different

WHEN I read your article; and decisive that it caused about the dramatic downward trend in male fe downward trend in male fer tility? Such a very special af-filction had to be rooted in something specifically con-nected with the reproductive process. It was at this point that I wondered if anyone had asked these young men in the survey if their mothers had used the contraceptive pill or is this a question that sci entists are afraid to ask! 115 Splott Road.

The princess and the pique

DRINCESS Diana did not relevant to the Pakistani "snuh" Pakistan's prime minister "by preferring to be a guest of the premier's lead-ing political opponent, Imran Khan ..." (Diana heads for diplomatic row, February 20).

Ms Bhutto did not invite the princess in the first place.
While we were conscious that Princess Diana would be Imran Khan's guest, she is a member of royalty and, in seeping with protocol, we did offer the Governor's House in Lahore should she wish to use it, and extended an invitation to tee or a meal with Ms Bhutto who would be in Karachi during the visit, should the princess have the time. It is, therefore, highly unfair to Prime Minister Bhutto to thumb one's nose at her for doing the right and proper

thing.
"The "close friends" you refer to is a Lahore socialite who has never even met Ms Bhutto. And why should the prime minister be furious anyway? Imran has yet to form a political organisation. he has yet to show his electoral strength; and how is it

people, 125 million of them, what a foreign princess thinks of our domestic

Your assertion that Paki stan's premier .was busy" to meet Princess Diana at the Lahore airport is too ludicrous for words. Benazir is the elected leader of Pakistan; it is entirely inappropri-ate for her to be receiving someone who is not a govern ment leader. And, might ladd, the Punjab minister who did receive the princess at the airport is the finance minister of Punjah, a province with 65 million people. He was not "local government" minister. Kamran Shaft.

Minister, High Commission for Pakistan. 35 Lowndes Square, London SWIX 9JN.

Please include a full postal address, even on a-mailed letters, and a talephone numbe We may edit letters; shorter ones are more likely to appear. We regret we cannot

A prescription for the NHS

A FUNDAMENTAL princile of good manag that the people with the right skills do the right work (Dwindling GPs 'mean crisis ahead for NHS', February 22). Hence burying GPs under the growing mountain of paperwork does not seem to be an efficient use of limited resources or professional skills. This problem is already

being addressed in some prac-tices with the introduction of practice managers, good use of those who have resorted to equal, or maybe greater, importance are the wide range of initiatives being explored on the clinical front, including telephone triage systems staffed by nurses to reduce the number of night calls; the increasing range of work undertaken by nurse practitioners and practice nurses such as cervical screening, asthma and diabetic clinics, health and diabetic clinics, health George Adams. promotion and discharge follow-up; IT consultation ser-

formation to date shows high patient satisfaction and good clinical outcomes. Barbara Vaughan. King's Fund Development

Ailsa Cameroz School of Policy Studies. Bristol University. c/o 11-13 Cavendish Square. London WIM GAN.

T SHOULD not take much private health cover that their premiums would be better invested in an effective NHS (Roy Hattersley, Comment page. February 23). For the next Labour government, the first step could be a surcharge on private health care premiums, the proceeds being directed to supporting and develop-ing the NHS.

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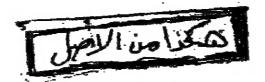
A Country Diary

control ("the Prom") is the southernmost tip of the Australian mainland, 130 miles south-east of Melbourne. Its rocks and mountains were formed 400 million years ago and once stretched between Victoria and Tasmania. When the climate warmed and sea levels rose, the landlink was cut. The navigator. Bass, named the promontory after a London friend of his companion, Flinders, It is a sides, and as timeless a space as you would hope to find. The wide, sandy bed of the tidal river winds out to Norman Bay. On either bank stand mysterious, rounded boulders, smoothed and streaked by the action of the elements across vast stretches of time. It would be hard to miss the sense of Aboriginal presence here: there is archaeological evidence, and myths and names like those of "Loo-ern" and slopes and mountains are

thickly covered with vegeta-

AUSTRALIA: Wilson's Prom- | tion where Kookaburras, spectacular Crimson Rosellas and Lorikeets perch in the Coast Tea-Trees. There are still, silent wetlands where white egrets and white-faced herons search studiously for food. Towards dusk we drove along the road to the small town of Foster. A plaque beside the stream commemorates the six men who first found gold there. On the way, we stopped when something moved on the verge. It was a nature reserve of 49,000 hect. large mother Wombat ares, with ocean on three closely followed by her young. She peered at us but then continued calmly munching spiky grass while the young one hid behind her and occasionally peered around one or other of spaces. A single kangaroo bounced across the road ahead. Then whole groups and families came out in the cool of the evening, some browsing on all fours, a mother suckling a well-grown "Joey", and here and there, an adult moving easily "Tiddalik" survive. The in giant leaps towards greener grass.

JOHN VALLINS



Diary

CCOUNTABILIT

2011 in 1991 **(19**

Matthew Norman

LEET Street is paralysed by doubt and sus picion — and the unwitting cause is Peter Bottomley, the excitable MP for Eltham. Who, we keep asking ourselves, is "the journalist" whom Buniley mentioned in Thursday's Commons de-bate about libel, but never named? Hansard reports him intriguing the House with a tale of how "I rang up a journalist about an unima journalist about an unim-portant story . . . I asked him whether he checked the story. He said that he had." But later, said Bumley, the hack changed his story, "be-fore going on with his own flannel". Bumley withholds the journalist's identity. Wild speculation has iney-Wild speculation has inevitably ensued: the names of Garry Bushell, Perry Worsthorne and Gentle-man Charlie Wilson have all been flung around with abandon. Meanwhile, many writers report wretched weekends spent with wives acting like scared strang-ers, and more still wilted yesterday under the silent, quizzical glances of their colleagues. This cannot go on. I appeal to the guilty man to step forward - or. failing that. I call on Bumley to name him. It is wrong, nay wicked, that all should be punished for the sins of the one.

LSO an expert on journalistic ethics, as readers of the letters page now know, is Dr Julian Lewis, the radio ham of Tory Central Office. Where Julian was held during his recent kidnap is unknown, but it certainly wasn't Lucy Clayton's: for his manners remain poor. He still disputes the word of a reporter on another diary, as to whether or not he needed her help to "look a complete wanker". Perhaps it is time to lay this matter to rest now, and to look forward to the little chap's candidacy for the safe Tory seat of New Forest East. What Julian may not yet know, and what thrill, is that his old pal Simon Regan, editor of Scallywag (the magazine Julian almost destroyed with a libel writ), will be standing there too. We hope to explore Mr Regan's campaign plans in the week ahead.

EARLY signs suggest that uniformed offiecers, and not just desubtleties of undercover work. Police Magazine reports that coppers from Albany Street nick in London wanted to execute a search warrant but could not, the premises baving a huge steel door as its only entry point. Then PC Dean Cunnington had a brainwave. He put on a postman's uniform, strode up to the door with colleagues close behind, and knocked hard until a voice shouted "Who is it?" from within. "It's the police," said PC Cunnington.

N Thursday, even as poor Bumley was addressing the Commons, another friend was transfixing the upper cham-ber. Lord Wyatt of Weeford recently spoke movingly about Rupert Murdoch, but this time it was his other specialisation: for, on the subject of those bushytailed little nut-biders, few speak with more authority than the creator of Mr Saucy Squirrel. In a debate about the verminous grey variety. Woody swiftly defended the sub-species's honour, blaming not it, but Henry VIII, for the red (apparently he chopped down forests, and grey squirrels "played happily in what pieces of forest were available"). Even today, concluded Woody, the grey squirrel "does no harm to the trees or the birds in my garden". So then, there it is

AM instructed to include the following statement without any comment. "The excitable MP for Eltham and the National Heritage Secretary: an apology. We wish to make it clear that the above couule's surname is not, as repeatedly printed in the Diary. Bumley . However explicable on phonetic grounds, this error has resulted from a systemic failure in the checking process. The editor and trustees of the Guardian regret any embarrassment caused to Peter and Virginia Bolmon dely, and offer sincere apologies."



Caught red-handed, but no red faces

Commentary

Hugo Young

MATURE reflection, 10 days on, told us the truth about the Government that sold arms to Iraq. It is that nothing went wrong. Their first impressions were confirmed. There was no error. There was no cover-up. No minister has any cause to be embarrassed Shame? To show it would break the first law of being a member of the Cabinet. In most scandals some minister is sheltering from what he knows is cock-up, conspiracy or personal defect. The distinguishing feature of the events that issued in the Scott Report is that ministers not only sincerely acted for the best, but are certain that any suggestion to the contrary be-trays a pitiful misunderstanding of what their job is all

Until yesterday, they thought this would see them through. They had doctored and spun to good effect, not least upon their own confi-dence. They were awars of

fleeting reluctance among the text of their case. But, having taken ownership of Scot eight days before anyone else their brazenness seemed to be preserving them.

Even this measure of brass-bound belief did not survive yesterday. Robin Cook, given time, had read the Scott Report more carefully than they had, and the judge was rescued from the distortions which, in the absence of his own spin-doctors, threatened to send his report halfway to to send his report halfway to oblivion. Mr Cook, master of text. destroyer of interruption, scorner of every shred of the ministerial case, made the most perfectly enjoyable speech I have heard in this place for many years.

Mr Cook was brilliant. No word failed to land lethally on its target. But he faced a government heach whose incre-

ernment bench whose incre-dulity made it an object ripe for his derision. In the national interest, it covered up some of the facts about arms sales, but is covering up not a particle of the true feelings it would rather we did not know. It is not secretly regretful, nor privately aware that ministers might have handled themselves better. There is no judgment it would have made differently. Collectively, it sat there yesterday blind to any of the accusations

root of his being, it is impossi ble for Mr Major to believe that any colleague was at fault, still less that he presides over a government of dishonourable men. Sir Nicholas Lyell doesn't simply disagree with the opinion of the emi nent Vice-Chancellor, he pulls ack his skirts with shrieking distaste, abetted by an un-seemly number of serving judges all too eager to speak out of turn, for the timiest sug-

gestion that any error might, at any level of reality, be cul-

pable. William Waldegrave

inxuriates as beneficary of the new constitutional doctrine of ministerial sincerity.

They reject, in other words, the central question. Aid in this Ian Lang, their spokes-man at the despatch box, faithfully reflected them. He lurched from one set of charges that were not made to tions that are beside the point, leaping, again in im-permeable ignorance of what his performance looked like.

across the gulf wherein the entire issue lies. With disdain for the most palpable of all facts, he said that "the Government accepts its acquittal by the Scott Report". We had been led to expect a certain modification of his mendacious arrogance on Day One. Prudence, if not penitence, had seemed to counsel it. But of this there

was no sign. Once again Mr Lang mobilised the *canards* that all ministers had to answer were charges of plot-ting to arm Saddam Hussein ting to arm saddam Hussein and conspiring to send inno-cent men to Jail. After that, he fell to droning on, through a cacophony he thoroughly de-served, about matters we did not want to hear. Even then, whether on the niceties of export statutes, or the smoother circulation of intelligence round Whitehall, or the case for telling Parliament the truth about arms sales, or the very question of arming Iraq and Iran, in each case all he could promise was that the Government would take an interest in whatever anyone else wanted to propose.

The core question, however, he avoided. It was as if

Shame? To show it would break the first law of being a member of the Cabinet

Board of Trade, had no place to discuss such a high matter as the accountability of min-isters. And in this he had a point. That question is more properly one for the Prime Minister. It's the one on which his priggish self-regard apparently makes him be-lieve, once again, that no error has been committed. Yet the charge has been made, and itemised with appalling candour by Lord Justice Scott by reference to scores of failures. One would have though Mr Major should have answered it. Instead he sent his lackey to trot out a

concede that if a select com-mittee, which is now examin-ing the issue, called for testimony, the Government would be happy to oblige. It is some-how typical of these ministers that, having had two weeks to contemplate their answer to a great constitutional question, which goes to the heart of public cynicism about politi-cians, they prove incapable of addressing it by any other means than agnostic procrastination.

Mr Cook destroyed them.

He made good most of the charges he had, in earlier years, rather recklessly made. When he drew from a Tory

backbencher the whine that all we sold were machinetools to make shells, not the shells themselves, he exposed the intellectual confusion as well as moral bankruptcy tha underpins pretty well all the Whitehall papers the Scott Report revealed. The silence betokened rich expectancy. Ministers writhed and stared at this imposter who doesn't at this imposter who doesn't know what ministers do, and upon whom, in final proof of shamelessness, they sought to pin the real blame for the fact that Scott ever sat. In its way, this occasion was Parliament's revenge.

Whatever the vote said, the message was clear. Parlia-ment had been the judge's main concern. He did not like to see the Commons design-edly misled. He thought this mattered, a lot more than ministers did. Parliament had been made to look feeble, ir relevant, acquiescent. Until yesterday, weary indifference seemed to have won the day. But the Commons became the theatre for a modest recovery in its own self-belief. The Tory backbenches hesitated to commit suicide. But they knew that Robin Cook was right, and Ian Lang, in the end, no match for Sir Richard

speech that insultingly ignored it, pausing only to

The Blair Revolution, the Peter Mandelson and Roger Liddle book serialised in the Guardian this week, is banal, pretentious and risibly inadequate, **Roy Hattersley** argues. Too often it serves only to reduce Labour's Big Ideas to vague generalities

Bubble 'n' squeak

delson's name on The Blair Revolution would not have been published. For although there is much to commend in its chapters on Europe and description of New Labour is a fascinating account of the party which Tony Blair hopes to create, its domestic policy prescription is feeble and its excursion into political philosophy is absurd. The attack on what the book describes as "a narrow view of class" is typical. The "wrongs of race and gender matter just as much". What a pity that it contains no suggestions about how they can be righted. Yet, although it ducks the

difficult issues. The Blair Revolution is written in a style which proclaims its authority. "Talk of a tax constraint

The impression is that policy decisions are to be left to advertising copy writers

makes one big assumption: that a Labour government could have plans for greatly increased public spending. No such assumption is justified. That is the language of a lead-er's speech. Presumption combines with emollience to damage Labour's cause. Even party members who cling to the old verities know that New Labour is built on princi-ples which are coherent and consistent. Too often Mandel-son (and his forgotten co-author, Roger Liddle) reduce The Big Ideas to soft options. vague generalities and reas-suring platitudes. If — out of misguided comradeship or compassion — Tony Blair en-dorses The Blair Revolution, it will become Brian Mawhin-ney's book of the year.

But its prescriptive chapters — although exceptionally well written — suffer from a second crucial failing. They are constructed in the form of tional families whose hopes and anxieties are (at least according to the authors) identical to the aspirations and fears of real people whom they know. The result is the impression that policy decisions are to be left to advertising copywriters — exactly the calumny that Tory Central Office hopes to spread. There were moments when I expected either Phil or Tracy to announce: "It's good to talk." Two characters, Eileen Cooke and Ben Hodgson, "are both strong believers in highquality public services". Naturally, they are worried about the present state of the health service. One of the problems is that "private finance is being used as a way of cutting NHS building programmes and giv-ing private companies the



Right. But far from suggesting a way of overcoming that det-riment to proper medical pro-vision. Mandelson and Liddle urge their readers to abjure "arguments about structure". They offer a reform which is simultaneously fashionable, conciliatory and risibly inadequate. "Our vision is of an NHS that uses the new tech-nology of the information superhighway to deliver high-quality health care of the highest possible standards as close as possible to where people live."

Avoiding arguments about

structures seems to be a canon of The Blair Revolution's basic belief. Speaking excathedra, the authors tell us. "New Labour believes that, throughout schools, standards are more important than best taken against the backstructure". That antithesis is ground of a clear and firmly about as sensible as the idea held philosophy. The Blair ing private componies the about as sensible as the idea held philosophy. The Blair losophers (from TH Green to chance to move in on the proting across the river is Revolution — wanting Labour John Rawls) who are dis-

and the second s

the bridge that takes us to the other side. Everybody who understands about education realises that standards and structures cannot be separated. Opponents of selection believe that comprehensive schools encourage the best results in children of average ability. Enthusiasts for gram-mar schools and City Technology Colleges claim that com-petition improves performance. But accepting the importance of structures requires policymakers to come down on one side or the other of the argument. And The Blair Revolution tries not

to offend. It is not solely because of the wish to please that tough questions are never answered. In politics, hard decisions are

unites the left and centre rejects ideology and replaces it with banalities. Labour stands for the ordi nary families who work hard and play by the rules." The only excuse for such triviality

only excuse for such triviality is the authors' palpable ignorance of the political philosophies which they reject.

Tony Crosland's vision of a more equal society is dismissed as dependent on continual economic growth and ever-increasing public expen-diture — a view commonly held by people who have not read The Future Of Socialism All that he wrote about "dis-tance factors" — the social and cultural barriers that keep the classes apart — is ignored. Yet the real Blair rev-olution is the heir of those ideas. It is also the descendant of those libertarians and phi-

missed by Mandelson and Liddle in a single sentence. The passage is pure gibberish in the book, but the publishers assure me that the authors meant to say:

Whereas the left desired the equality of outcome, and the right, individual freedom to do whatever they pleased, New Labour sets as its goal a real equality of opportunity for all and special privileges

Equality of outcome is not inconsistent with equality of and hope. "But no one," he opportunity. Nor is it the imopportunity. Nor is it the imposition of uniformity. It is the continual choice of policy options which promotes a more equal distribution of power and wealth. Without it. equality of opportunity is impossible. A common start to a hurdle race does not provide an equal opportunity of winning if some of the runners are lame. Nor is there a real choice to be made between equality and liberty. Hayek

A race does not provide equal opportunities of winning if some runners are lame

argued that freedom is no more than the absence of restraint — the right of the powerful to exploit the weak. In truth, liberty is the practical ability (not theoretical chance) to make the choices of

Radicals always insisted that restraints on the rich and powerful are essential to the protection of liberty for the weak. In John Rawls's words, "when liberties are unrestricted, they collide". Tawney said that "freedom for the carp is death to the minnow". and socialists have always known that protecting minnows was part of their obligation.

It is a wonderful paradox that Mandelson and Liddle have confused all these not very complicated concepts. what lies at the heart of The Blair Revolution's inade-

prosperous carp.
That is, we must assume why it says nothing about the alleviation of family poverty (child benefit is not men-tioned) or about the tax changes which might finance it. The watchwords are "fair-ness and efficiency" — defined as giving a hard time to the directors of private utilities and the recipients of inherited wealth, two categories who are almost universally unpopular and not sufficiently nu mercus to make a significant contribution to the revenue. I gladly voted for taxing them. But it is the easy option. I nominated Tony Blair for the leadership of the Labour

Party because, among other virtues, he had the courage to take hard decisions. I believe that he will fulfil most of my hopes. He should not be held responsible for a book which is tough only on the principles

And the walls, they came tumbling down



Catherine Bennett

■HE Millennium Commission's decision to lavish £200m on a huge exhibition in Greenwich should remind us that time and money are running out.

Anyone with a visionary scheme of celebration for the year 2000 should submit it. pronto, before the remaining lottery money is used up on Ferris wheels and cycle paths. homework centres and

salmon ladders. What sort of scheme is most likely to dazzle this eminent quango? What are the chances for my own application: a monumental sculpture of the Millennium Commission, posed in the manner of Ro-din's Burghers of Calais? A few pointers have emerged. The Commission is not impressed by new opera houses, but looks kindly upon wild-flower centres, village halls, and high-quality sea-front amenities. Peter Brooke has called for projects which sound could be just the thing would "break new ground in to put some fizz and excitedesign or function or make a new contribution to public life". More recently, Simon Jenkins has expressed his disappointment at the "lack of imagination" shown by applicants. He wanted "more oddity, more quirkiness, more fizz, more excitement".

How the Commissioners must have thrilled to the pro-posal to refurbish the nation's village halls! One can readily imagine the gratitude with which future generations of toddlers and "tums-bums-and thighs" enthusiasts will look back on this historic award. One day, in the year 2100 or thereabouts, a parish councillor will pick up a tea-urn or biscuit barrel of antique design, and fall to musing on the quirkiness and fizz that characterised life in 1996.

Some may say that the scheme lacked transcendence. Certainly, future applicants should bear in mind the comments of Prince Charles, the tireless biscuit and soft-drinks manufacturer, on the need for erect a great religious building such as the new Hindu temple in Neasden, completed

last year."
Those of a spiritual disposition will doubtless share the Prince's disappointment, but with less than four years left, can we afford to be ambitious? The Swaminarayan Temple was carved in Gujerat, not Neasden, then assembled on site in the fire of religious have approved.

mthusiasm. British builders being what they are, the most we can expect to realise by the year 2000 is a garage or mod-

est bathroom extension.

Has the Prince forgotten the foundation stone of the British Library? The building was due to open in 1989, but now. almost two decades since it was commissioned, the library is not merely unfin-ished, unpopular and three times over-budget, but already inadequate to its intended purpose. If we cannot finish a simple red-brick compound in 20 years, how will we complete a great religious building in four?

As a millennial occasion the final unveiling of this bleak and calamitous edifice might be thought a perfect reflection of the modern British character, but we can do better than this. In a spirit of renewal and hope, why not raze it to the ground and start anew? If, as Gerald Kaufman has suggested, the British Library is "one of the ugliest buildings in the world", its extinction would instantly make the world a better place.

And why stop there? Demolition is so much quicker than construction. construction. A chain of tri-umphant demolitions, starting at the stroke of midnight 1999 then advancing across the country in a blaze of light and sound, could be just the thing ment into the proceedings. Moreover, the scheme would satisfy all Peter Brooke's

spoken of the importance of "cohesive IRGINIA Bottomley has force" in millennial projects. and the selection of doomed buildings, if democratically done, would bind the nation together. At least 500 sites should be chosen, spread around the country and ex-pressive of both the range and depth of public loathing.

requirements: it is unique,

breaks new ground, and

tion to public life.

Even before the proposals come in, it is possible to pre-The South Bank will be the favourite for many London ers, and an excellent start to the celebrations. One pictures lasers, fireworks over the Thames, and the sound of trumpets. As the concrete dust subsides, the festivities move north — to the Queen Moth-White City; in Oxford, the rubble of the Psychology Building heralds a new era of daylight and fresh air. The people of Cambridge dance on a flat-tened Holiday Inn. All over the country, tower blocks come tumbling to the ground. cheered on by their former inhabitants. Like the fall of Jericho, this millennium

would be remembered forever.

And John Betjeman would

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Scholarly idea

VAN HANNAFORD has 13 years in the ordinary died aged 64 of motor neu- world of work before he went

book, Race: The History Of An Idea In The West, will excite great controversy when it

written.

doctorate.

to LSE as a mature student

He got a job at the old Kingston College of Technology, teaching craft apprentices

cept of race had not been

Hannaford worked on it for

more than 30 years, in odd

holes and corners of time. After three years of leaching

in Canada he returned to Kingston, where his dogged common sense, talents and kindly, protective instinct to

his younger and over-

stretched colleagues gradually pulled him into adminis-

tration. He retired in 1991 as assistant director of Kingston University, which last year awarded him an honorary

But Hannaford's values

were in the old London exter-nal degree system that did so

much, alongside Birkbeck

College and the new polys, for

mature students. So he also taught a political theory course, despite the pressure of his administrative duties.

As something of his work

began to emerge in papers at the annual UK Political Con-

secretary), there came belated academic recognition and

help in the form of periods of

leave at Wolfson College and

row Wilson Center in Washington. His wife Marjatta, a nurse.

and their daughter, helped sustain him through the pro-

cess of publication. He faced

death stoically and gracefully, having seen his work of 30 years complete.

Ivan William Hannaford, sociolo

glat, born March 21, 1931; died

Sears plc. 63; Rabbi Julia Neaberger. 46; Graeme Pol-lock, cricketer. 52; Alberto

Remedios, operatic singer, 61; Gene Sarazen, golfer. 94; Prof Roger Scruton, philoso-pher, broadcaster, 52 Antoi-

nette Sibley, prima balle-rina, 57; Timothy Spali-actor, 39; Kenzo Takada, fashion designer, 57; Eliza-

beth Taylor, actress, 64; Eli-sabeth Welch, singer, 87; Air

Marshal Sir Sandy Wilson,

Bernard Crick

February 14, 1996

Frank Allaun, peace cam- Association, 55; Sir Geoffrey paigner, former MP, 83; Maitland Smith, chairman.

a summer term at the Wood-

of a lifetime

peli

234 114

Ivan Hannaford

died aged 64 of motor neu-rone disease, just a few weeks after finishing correct-

ing the proofs of a truly major work — perhaps even an in-

Not a fact, an idea. It is a

long book. A reader said that

rarely has so much space been given to reaching a neg-ative conclusion, but one of

great importance: that the whole concept of race is a modern invention of pseudo-

science unknown to the older world. The use of the word

race" in translations of old

texts is wholly, he claimed

and has demonstrated in de-

tail a mistake of 19th century scholars driven by ideology, a

new theory that human be-

naviour is a product of biolog-

ical determination, and that human beings are classifiable by physical attributes in the

same way that the 18th cen-

tury botanists and biologists

were classifying plants and

He discovered, to his own

surprise, that where transla-tors rendered "race" for

human groups, contemporar-ies thought that recognisable differences were a product of

climate, religion or different

ideas of culture - including

those of voluntary civic

association (the greatest mark of human freedom). Physical characteristics do

not determine behaviour, al-

though behaviour towards

and even by different types can become attached to par-

ticular cultures, but that is

historical conditioning -

therefore changeable, vari-able and consistent with

The book has its human in-

terest in being the solitary work of an old-fashioned pri-

Paddy Ashdown MP, leader, Liberal Democrats, 55; Str Michael Butler, chairman,

BBC US correspondent, 43;

human freedor

Birthdays

explained by sociological and

appears later this year.

Haing S Ngor

Journey to a death

HERE are few more | merchants, was of Chinese ortragic ironies than the death of Dr the death of Dr Haing S Ngor, who survived four years of hell under the brutal Khmer Rouge regime in Cambodia only to be fatally shot at the age of 45 outside his home offered passage for himself, his fiances Hyon and her on the streets of Los Angeles. He was one of the many thousands of Indo-Chinese

refugees who tried to make a new life for himself in the safety of the United States. Another frony, though ennobling, was that the medium of cinema enabled him to pay tribute to the courage of an extraordinary fellow country-man, the photo-journalist Dith Pran. and increase his own profile so that his life message were more widely disseminated.

In 1983, Haing S Ngor was working as a counsellor at a resettlement agency for refu-gees in LA's Chinatown when he was spotted at a Cambodian wedding party by Pat Golden, casting director for David Puttnam's production of The Killing Fields. She insisted that the non-actor doctor play the part of Dith Pran. It was Pran who saved the lives of Pulitzer Prize-win-ning reporter Sidney Schan-berg and his fellow journal-

ists and was then left to save himself from a labour camp and certain death by obliter-ating all traces of his educa-tion, and subsequently escap-ing into Thailand. After initial reluctance, be-

cause "in Cambodia film people are lower down people doctors like me are pretty high". Ngor agreed to take the part. Pran's story was "my story", he said. "All of us from that time have the same story." So Ngor returned to Thailand as a Hollywood actor, chosen from among 7,000 | pocket. He found employment

Cambodian refugees. In 1975, Ngor had been a prosperous young obstetrician just about to get married. He came from a wealthy mer-chant family, which like most towards medical certification.

igin. His mother was Khmer and his father a fifth-generahis fiancee, Huoy, and her mother. He declined, believing the situation would improve. He was wrong.

In the following four years the radical Maoist Khmer Rouge imposed a reign of terror in their pursuit of an ethnically pure, isolationist nation, emptying the cities, purging minorities, the intel-ligentsia and the professional middle class. Estimates that put deaths at one million out of a population of about 7.5 million Cambodians have now been revised closer to

two million. Under the Khmer Rouge first Huoy's mother, then Ngor's parents, brothers and their wives were killed by execution, starvation and dis-ease. Eleven of his family died. Two of his brothers and a niece survived. Huoy died in his arms while in labour. Ngor pretended to be a taxi driver, refusing to divulge his

real identity even under torture. He was starved, put in a bag and flogged, his head was clamped in a vice, his finger cut off and he was strung from a cross above a simmer ing fire for four days. But he stuck to his story. His weight dropped from 14 to seven When the Vietnamese in-

vaded Cambodia in April, 1979, Ngor was able to rescue his five-year-old niece and escape to Thailand. He served as a doctor in the refugee camps before coming to Los Angeles in 1980 with \$4 in his as a job counsellor for refugees, communicating with his clients in fluent French, Cambodian, Cantonese, Vietnam-



The Killing Fields, directed by Roland Joffe, won three Oscars in 1984 for photogra-phy, editing and, for Ngor, best supporting actor. Belying his immense mental and physical toughness, the gentie, slightly-built bespecta-cled Ngor was remarkable in the role, but it was also one of the most courageous screen performances, since he had to relive the nightmars. Yet, as Ngor said, "What you see in the film is bad. But what

really happened was worse ... but before The Killing Fields, no one knew when Cambodia was." The on-screen partnership between Ngor and Sam Wa-terston (as Schanberg) is said to have curiously mirrored that of Pran — who became a New York Times photographer — and the real Schan-berg. Waterston's delight at seeing Ngor collect his Academy Award was more touching than any Oscar-night thankyou speech has ever been. The Oscar winner then gained large audiences on the

lecture circuit and played a

few other roles, in films such as The Iron Triangle and Oli-

Earth.
To help the thousands of

Cambodian refugees — 50 per cent of whom are orphans — stuck in camps Ngor helped found the Brussels-hased Aides Aux Personnes Déplacees and the Paris-based Enfants d'Angkor. He also wrote a best-selling autobiography, Haing Ngor, A Cambodian

Ngor said, 'What you see in the film is bad. But what really happened was worse'

Odyssey, which appeared in 1989. Ngor, a Buddhist, remained sceptical about his fame. "Please, in my next life. don't let me separate from my wife and family again. Do you want to be famous and have lost your whole family?"
In 1989, Ngor paid his first

ver Stone's Heaven and | he was frightened that the | Khmer Rouge would try to kill him, he replied, "No. I already showed them to the world in an important film and my book. Now, if the Khmer Rouge want to kill me, they can go ahead. I'm very available."

A member of the US Committee to Oppose the Return of the Khmer Rouge, he returned again to Cambodia in 1994 and warned on television that the killing fields were not over. "The Khmer Rouge are like the tiger and the zebra, they never change

their stripes." Yale University Cambodian expert professor Ben Kiernan. who appeared on Cambodian television with Ngor, de-scribed him as "impassioned and articulate, a formidable opponent of the Khmer Rouge and quite inspiring."

Despite his Hollywood celebrity and success on the lec-

ture circuit, Ngor continued to live in a modest two-bedroom apartment in an ageing building near Chinatown. He "was always a suspect.

berg, yesterday. "He would do things that would put himself at risk ... every once in a while, someone would be sick and he'd be trying to minister to them and that made him immediately suspect as an educated person, subject to punishment and death." Ngor and Dith Pran, Schanberg

added, "were both the charac ter because they had suffered in the same way."
Yet despite his gruesome experience, Ngor never lost his sense of humour. In comparing experiences with Pran, who endured much less than the man who played him, Ngor said once: "We like to joke about who had the

worst time. He told me be had eaten mice, snails and lizards. You had a lizard, I said to him. Very tasty. That's like Toone steak here in the States. The best meal I ever ate was termites and red ant eggs."

Ronald Bergan and Mark Tran

In 1989, Ngor paid his first He "was always a suspect. Haing S Ngor, obstetrician and visit to Cambodia for 15 wherever he was, trying to actor, born 1950; died February years. When he was asked if stay alive under the Khmer 25, 1996

Royal College of Art, 68; Chel-sea Clinton, America's First Daughter, 16; Gavin Esler, Alan Jinkinson, outgoing general secretary, Unison, 61; Mervyn Jones, author. 74; Michael Kaye, former direc-tor. City of London Festival.

roone III exhibition of 1986, a catalogue of Florentine drawings for Katrin Bellinger in the late eighties and an introduction to the catalogue of the Volterrano drawings at Sotheby's in the same period. His The History Of Interior Decoration (1983) revealed another

lightly, and enlivened it with brilliant wit. He could encapsulate the quality of a paint-ing precisely, yet pungently. His last recorded words. emerging briefly from a coma, were a brusque dismissal of the picture hanging on his hospital wall.

orce in 1980; he is survived by their son Julien. For the last 12 years he had shared his life with his devoted friend.

Charles McCorquodale, art historran, born June 29, 1948; died

McCorquodale . . . erudite

aspect of his interests. He wore his erudition

McCorquodale's marriage to Rhoda King ended in div-

William Thuillier

present ruler, and that reserved for his successor is the last. Some might say it was ominous. The Diary Of Thomas Raikes (London, 1852). nine black languages, has surged in the boardrooms of

teaches African languages, now runs a special two-day course on "The executive ex-perience in Zulu": it teaches survival skills in business situations" and introduces whites to "Zulu cultural norms and behaviour".

defy all opposition; no sooner

Whether such lessons are bearing fruit remains to be seen. After the Zulu lesson is over, one Afrikaner explains why she is so pleased to have done the course: "Now, when italk to my gardener, and I want him to dig the bed but not the tomatoes. I can pick up the shovel and say to him 'dig'." The Economist listens to the

He shall return

Catholic Church, for example, buys into the big bang, buys into the origin of life by chemical processes on the early earth, buys into evolution, including the evolution of human beings ... Science, much more than religion, understands human fallibility and does not consider any of its doctrines to be impervi-

thing I always ask them is: What would you do if a fundamental tenet of your religion was definitely disproved by science?... The Dalai Lama's answer was: "If science found a serious error in Tibetan Buddhism, of course we would change Tibetan Bud-dhism." So I tried to push him on this issue. Suppose it was something basic? Suppose, for instance, it was reincar nation? And the Dalai Lama said to me, "If science can disprove reincarnation. Tibetan Buddhism would abandon reincarnation." And then he said, "But it's going to be mighty hard to disprove reincarnation." Science writer Carl Sagan talks to Interview magazine

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Vehbi Koc

An empire built on roof tiles

industrialist and philanthropist, had a favourite quote for a rich man's gravestone: "He could do addition, multiplication, but not subtraction. After he died, his relatives learned division.

When he died, aged 94, of a hotel he owned in the southern coastal resort of Antalya. Koc was Turkey's wealthiest man and its biggest taxpayer. His relatives, a son, three daughters and three sons-inlaw, will not need to practise division. They are much involved in the management of the Koc empire he created.

The family used to gather on July 20 each year to celebrate his birthday, although the date was a guess: Koc's mother had told him she gave birth in 1901, "just as the grapes were turning red". The eldest of three children

horn into a middle-class Ankara family. Koc left school at 16 to set up a grocer's shop ranging from a supermarket with his father. At 20, he was chain to a domestic appliance a civil servant, and two years later he began to sell construction materials.

EHBI KOC, the Turkish | old Ottoman empire by Kemal Ataturk. A storm blew the roof off the first parliament building in Ankara, Koc provided new tiles, and capped his reputation as a trustwor thy businessman as a buildng boom took off in Ankara. Much of his fortune was

made by acquiring distribution rights for American goods. He became the Standard Oil and Ford Motor Company's agent in 1928. After the second world war. he won the General Electric contract and opened Turkey's first lightbulb factory. In 1966 he produced the first Turkish car, the Anadol It was not known for its solid construction: part of the bodywork was made out of straw. He had better success making cars under licence from Fiat from the late sixtles.

Koc handed over his hold ings to his son, Rahmi, in 1984. They now comprise more than 80 companies, maker. Some 40,000 people are employed by Koc Holdings ranked one of the top 100 com-His hig break came in 1923. panies in the world. The famin the first days of the Turkity fortune is estimated at ish Republic carved out of the more than \$3 billion.



anthropic work in his final ears. An education foundation built schools, libraries, a museum and a university. Up to 60,000 students benefited from scholarships.

recognised for his campaigning on population control, blaming Turkey's social and financial problems on bad family planning. The popula-tion has grown from 36 million to 63 million in 25 years He founded the Turkish Fam ily Planning Foundation and received the lifetime's suc cess award of the US Popula tion Institute in 1991. A Juesco prize followed in 1994 "The most important capita is human resources." he wrote "But it is necessary to create and use resources rationally for the social and economic de

Chris Nuttali

But he was internationally tine culture.

velopment of society."

Vehbi Koc. Turkish industrialisi and philanthropist, born July 20. 1901; died February 25, 1996

Florence with a flourish

Charles McCorquodale

HARLES McCorquo- | tips, in the rigour of his anadale who has died of an Aids related illness at the age of 47, was a scholar, writer, lecturer and guide on Florentine 17th-century studies. His quicksilver personal-ity and profound knowledge meant that his tours of Florence led a new generation to look freshly at the shadowy late Medici period of Floren-

For several years he contributed to a series of Vene-tian art courses which encouraged him to establish similar tours in Florence. Their success stemmed from characteristically Florentine mix of erudition and senquality which McCorquodale distilled.

He also arranged tours across Britain and Europe for trustees and friends of major American museums, extending to Sicily and to Scotland where he rediscovered his love of Scottish interiors and gardens. These inspired his final but unrealised project, a book on Scottish domestic architecture from 1500 to 1914. McCorquodale was born in McCorquodale contributed Edinburgh and educated at a lively and literary-orien-

tute, emerging from the tutelage of Anthony Blunt with a first class degree in 1969, and spent a post-graduate year in Florence, later becoming a fel-low at the Harvard Centre in Berenson's Villa I Tatti, McCorquodale has left an impressive corpus of published work, although the pressures of his travels meant that it is not as full as he would have wished. His 1979

catalogue to the Royal Acade my's Painting In Florence 1600-1700 exhibition was a pioneering work, swiftly fol-lowed by his 1981 monograph on Bronzino. The Baroque Painters Of Italy (1979) and his last publication, the sumptuously illustrated The Renaissance: European Painting 1400-1600 (1994), were both well received.

George Heriot's School. He tated introduction to the torna, born June remained a Scot to his finger. Mathiessen Gallery's Ba. February 16, 1996

and boulders and other name

lytical methods, and in a certain ascetic cast of counte nance, which, after years spent in the softer ambience of Florence, gave him some thing of the air of a Counter Reformation cardinal. He studied at the Courtauld Insti-

David Cossart.

mere cipher. I was walking the other day round the Royal Exchange, the enceinte of which is adorned with the statues of all our kings. Only two niches now remain vacant; one is destined to our

71; Barbara Kelly, former chairman, Scottish Consumer Council. 56; Nick Leeson. Another Day

RAF training and personnel. 55; Joanne Woodward, acrogue Barings trader, 30; Sir Hugh Leggatt. fine art dealer, 71; Edward Lucietress, 66; Lord Young of Smith, poet and art critic, 63: Graffham, former chairman, Ian McGarry, general secre-Cable and Wireless, former tary, British Actors' Equity Conservative munister, 64. Death Notices AMBROSE Office Margary, Pathed away peacefully at St. Margaria's 24th February 1996 aged 90 Belovos with mother and grandmother Funeral sennce at Parindon Wood Crematerium 12 noon on Thurador Wood Crematerium 12 noon on Thurador State February Fundly Nowers only Denuitoria of destred to Save The Children Fund or 10 St. Joseph's Hospital Appeal Fund Roms. Lefotto ****************** February 27, 1833; Whatever may be in store for this country, none can foretell; but that a great revolution is advancing none can deny. The democratic power is raising its fearful head, and, as the Times paper says this morning, let the present govern-ment resign or not, the march

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offed at Ardenias Marie Cune Centire, libies
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of Clare (Williams) Recited (Rotheson) and
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845 of affairs will continue, and is one innovation accom-plished than a fresh inroad is proposed. The aristocracy are hourly going down in the scale; royalty is become a

BHS

MUDD, On Finday February 22rd 1996
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Farm. Resemblale Devoting (alther of Triny,
Justiti Berbara and Angels also a beloved
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at Actrington Crematerium at 1 00pm Fainity flowers only with domainance if desired to
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Tred Harmar Funeral Service James Service

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alk to religious leaders. one

Jackdaw



Classic fare

ALREADY by the classical period, the hare was about the only wild game likely to be encountered by Athenian huntsmen (and it made a pretty gult to a beloved), but further afield wild boar, deer and goat were caught and consumed - so, also, if the sources are to be believed, were foxes, wild ass, and even lions and bears (the last tasting pretty bad and needing to be boiled twice). Most people, of course, if they are meat at all, ate domesticated animals: pig. sheep and goat. Beef, despite its Homeric fame, appears to have been a rarity. The quail, rather than the

1

modern domestic fowl known in India for millennia but not introduced into Greece much before 600 BC) was the standard farmyard bird, kept both for eggs and for its flesh; but the Athenian bird market also sold larks. starlings, jays, jackdaws, sparrows, siskins, blackcaps and thrushes (the last some times blown up with air to make them look fatter). Fish and seafood were then, as now, an important part of the Greek diet, but the varieties consumed included even seasquirts and sea anenomes. All of the above were, of course. to some extent (or for some people) luxuries; lentils. bar-ley and wheat (even acorns) were the staples, and the term opson. "what one eats with bread", covered just about everything else cheese, eggs, fish, meat and vegerables (including the humble lupin). On these grounds. Dalby classifies of ive oil and wine as "luxuries" rather than "staples" (a point about which I would be a little

uncertain given their numi-

have always played in the

tional value and the role they

Greek diet). As in modern Greece, oil was used in most cooked dishes, but was also eaten plain on bread ("butter eaters" was a contemptuous term for barbarian Thracians); in complete contrast with modern Greek habits. however, wine was always drunk with it. It was also liberally watered, ancient authorities variously recommending a ratio of 12, 2:5 and 1:3. It tool another 2,000 years, until the 16th century AD, for the Greeks to change thier minds on that point. Then a French traveller to Venetian-governed Crete could observe. "The Greeks] all consider it had to put water in their wine." Roger Just reviews Andrew Dalby's Siren Feasts - A history of food and gastronomy in Greece (Routledge) in the Times Literary Supplement

Car art LOS ANGELES, the glamour capital of the world, is also the city of the automobile. and for many the correct automobile is the essence of glamour itself. But while the purchase of a car is widely

regarded as an important fashion statement, the type of accident we have while driving that car receives little or no attention. An accident can be an occasion of great per-sonal loss and injury, but it can also be an opportunity to demonstrate an unflappable sense of decorum and taste. What we present here are a connoisseur's guidelines for that truly classic auto accident, LA style . . . No less important than

what you are driving is what you hit. The rules here are largely intuitive. Colliding cars should be comparable in vintage and market value. Imports and domestics do not mix well. Never, under any circumstances, back into your target. A single male should never rear-end a woman. Always sideswipe on the passenger's side. Hitting a parked car is considered bad sportsmanship. The same may be said of hitting other stationary objects, though once again there are notable exceptions. Driving through cascades of shattering store front windows can make an

ral obstacles chosen for their natural beauty are most suitble for the contemplative driver and the Jananese car. And of course, the casual convertible is best for that surprise automotive dip during poolside cocktails. The Reperend Al Carophony's Connoisseur Guide to the Perfect Car Wreck, in the American magazine, Twisted Times

Zulu talk

TUESDAY lunchtime, and strange sounds are floating out of the company boardroom. Inside, around a polished yew table. 10 white managers are swaving to the song "Nginesiponono sase Thekwin", or "I've got a sweet heart in Durban". Pinned to their lapels are their Zulu names: Lifa, Musa, Vusi. These white managers of a headhunding firm, clapping nesitantly to the African rhythm. are practising South Africa's latest management fod: learning Zulu.

Since the end of apartheid.

the teaching of Zulu, the most

Main Street. In the past three years, T.A.L.K., a company that teaches Zulu, has run more than 50 language cours in some of South Africa's big-gest companies... The ability to understand each other matters much more now that one side is not formally superior to the other. In a sense, the us of Zulu as a management tool is as much about breaking down cultural barriers as it is about learning a language. In-terman, [a] company that

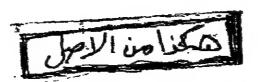


unforgettable entrance. Trees | widely spoken of the country's | No return . . . Interview

boardrooms of South Africa SOME religions have no trou-ble with science. The Roman

for its "Beauty" issue. Jackdaw wants your jewels. Email jackdawirguardian.co.uk; fax 0171-713 4366; Jack daw, The Guardian, 119 Forringdon Road, London ECIR 3ER.

Dan Glaister



The problems of youth and lawlessness will not go away without investment in the young. In the last extract from their book, Peter Mandelson and Roger Liddle discuss education and unemployment

Lesson for the **future**

Blair's new Britain

EW LABOUR tough and clear about where it stands issues of right and wrong. It should stand on the side of justice, which has become a tattered concept in modern society at all social levels — from the minority who cheat the social security system to wealthy fraudsters who appear to walk away from our courts scot-free. Given such an approach, the public will be ready to listen to politicians who explain the complexity of the issues. This is the way to deal with the shallow law-and-order populism of the right, which has little credibility with the voters given the Tories' record.

n Sarajevo

Table mass

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The problem of crime is to a large extent the problem of disaffected teenagers. These are young people who are out of the control of their parents and alienated, if not truant, from school, or perhaps ex-cluded from it as a result of disciplinary action.

Britain urgently needs to people — a contract that ap-plies first to the final years of compulsory schooling and then beyond - to help young people find a sure footing in the adult world, but with tough penalties for those who refuse the opportunity and fail to fulfil their side of the

bargain. First, all schools must accept new responsibilities for the welfare of all their publis. however difficult and disruptive. It is no good teachers expressing a sigh of relief that troublemakers play truant, thereby allowing the more motivated to get on with their work. School attendance needs to be made the legal requirement that for-mally it is. Teachers should make out-of-school visits to the homes of problem pupils and their parents, and monitor closely the commitments to improved behaviour and more regular attendance parents and pupils make. Where truancy persists, prompt legal action should be taken against parents.

Tenchors need proper pro-tection against threatening behaviour and physical violence. Schools require a new. much tougher set of disciplinary sanctions to deal with unrily and uncooperative puhomework on school premuses, weekend and Saturpursuits such as attendance at football matches.

This greater emphasis on school discipline should be matched in the local community. The police, schools and local authority services must work more closely together in order to crack down on vandalism and other antiso-cial behaviour. Excessive tolerance of low level sub-crimi-nal behaviour by unruly young people undermines general respect for the rule of law, ruins the environment, and makes a misery of the lives of many innocent people — and provides the breeding-

ground for more serious But the primary emphasis in dealing with young truants and troublemakers should be remedial. A key role needs to be played by an adult mentor in practice, a surrogate parent to substitute for the one who either doesn't exist or isn't up to the job — whom schools should appoint for each problem teenager. The job of the mentor would be to maintain weekly contact with the teenager, to act as a mix-ture of counsellor and wise

elder brother or sister, and to

report to the school regularly

on problems.

Mentors would mainly be ex-pupils in their twenties, living in the local neighbour-hood, who had made something of life, with an ability to relate to their younger peers and be good role models for them to follow. The aim would be to keep their charges attending school, achieving his or her potential, and out of trouble with police. Where, despite these efforts, young teenagers still get into trouble with the law, the mentor would work with

The aim would be to keep their charges attending school and out of trouble with the police - not to act as the police

the probation service to help ensure that commitments are

society and young people must not come to an abrupt end as the compulsory school-leaving age is reached. Society has a responsibility to ensure that the young unemployed do not disappear into the unknown — a murky underclass world of drug abuse and crime.

The basic elements of the nost-school contract — which should cover the period to the age of 25 — are a mixture of carrot and stick. The carrot is work and opportunity for those who commit them-selves to it. The stick is a denial of full benefits to those day-night detention, and the banning of favourite leisure who drop out. Without bene- education and training are of ability in some academic sub-



easy for a minority of young people to get into the habit of drawing dole and supple-menting their income in the cash economy — cheating the social security system and their fellow citizens.

No one is suggesting these remedies would be easy. The responsibility for management of work and training schemes for the young and the long-term youngleved. the long-term unemployed will prove a demanding task for a totally revamped em-On top of this, the organisa-

tion of a scheme of supervised labour in the commu nity for young criminals will be even more testing. There will be initial public expenditure costs in getting these plans going, but we should recognise the existing huge costs of crime and the criminal justice system.

This proposal for a compre hensive new contract between young people and society is not the be-all and end-all of tackling crime, but it could be the centrepiece of New Labour's approach. To make this new contract

effective will require a concerted effort by all society's institutions that deal with young people. We propose nothing less than a mass mobilisation of every local community to counter social breakdown and crime.

SIMILAR com-

munity based should under-Labour's approach to the other needs of young people, whether they are pupils at school, or teenagers training to enter the labour market. "Next time I hear the Labour Party talk ing about training. I'm going to scream." This kind of comment reflects a common misconception among the chatsubject for wimps. This is to misunderstand both the modern global economy and the reasons for the long history of British economic failure.

can best promote economic success by ensuring that their people are equipped with the skills necessary for the modern world. Britain needs a quantum leap in educational standards. Standards are more important than structures, and a genthe country's highest educational priority. There are two other urgent

requirements: first, to recom-mit the middle class to state education and, secondly, to ensure that children, what-ever the nature of their talent and whatever their social background, have a fair chance to achieve their full potential. There is no reason why any school in any area should be a failure. The most successful schools are those with strong leadership from heads and a distinctive ethos of their own — whatever the balance of their intake. New Labour wants to allow schools the maximum free dom to develop their own ethos and identity: an excellence in science, perhaps, or music, or a real specialism in some aspect of vocational studies, possibly flowing from a successful compact with local businesses. Parents who are looking hard

creasingly attractive. But what about parents who want the best possible academic education for their child, or the prospects of a bright working-class child from a deprived neighbourhood? Labour has rightly ruled out the return of 11-plus style selection. However more schools should consider

for something to suit their own child might then find

parts of the state system in-

logical presumptions in favour of mixed ability teaching, these should be abandoned in favour of what achieves the best results in Ultimately governments

What about the private sector? Labour has no plans to abolish the public schools. In a free society, this is surely right: the principal educa-tional issue is how to raise standards in the state sector, and it is difficult to justify the loss of parents' personal libas they want. Rather, Labour should be seeking a new partnership between the public

schools and the rest of soci-

The most Successful schools Germany is wholly admiraare those with strong leadership from heads and a distinctive ethos of their own

ety. The abolition of assisted places will draw attention to the need to build new bridges and extend new ladders of opportunity in order to overcome the undoubted divisiveness between our two sys-

encouraged to twin with state schools in some of the most deprived neighbourhoods in Britain. The purpose would be to encourage a two-way traffic between the two systems. The state school might initially make use of some private-school facilities - for games, music or drama, for example. The private school could use its association with the school and the local

create opportunities for community service.
These ideas will succeed

greater support from the community outside. Every secondary school should have business forum and establish links with a variety of businesses and workplaces. Pupils would gain regular opportunities for workplace experience. This would help in the vital work of encouraging business and education to bility for the future of train- utilities are required to meet ing. A sense of responsibility has to be developed from the bottom up, locality by locality, involving businesses of all shapes and sizes. The local organisation of training in

vested in chambers of combodies. merce and the modern-day equivalent of the craft guild. The present-day training and enterprise councils in Britain are a very poor substitute.

Labour government must be to rebuild and nourish a sense of community responsi-bility for the long-term unemployed. But this can only be achieved gradually, by put-ting forward practical solu-tions, being mindful of industrial competitiveness, and demonstrating the effectiveness of each new initiative along the way.

tems of education.

The practical difficulties
Private schools should be should not be underestimated and the long-term costs of job creation must clearly he kept to the minimum. This implies that job-creation expenditure should be carefully targeted at the unemployed, not given away in public-spending lar-gesse, and that offsetting sav-ings in the social-security budget must, as far as possible, be achieved.

The priority should be the long-term unemployed and the young unemployed; help neighbourhood to give its puthe young unemployed: help pail Mall Dep pils much-needed contact to get the hard-core unem-with the real world. to de ployed into jobs should be 0500 418 419

undertake training — on the part of both the employer and the employee. Policy should address the barriers in the best if schools receive much existing social security sys-tem which hold people back

from taking low-paid work or undertaking training. There are five promising avenues for policy:

• Recruitment subsidies to encourage private sector em-ployers to take on the long-

term unemployed. Improving the service standards which regulated i ate new, low-skill job opportunities.

 Specific grants to promote job-creation in the voluntary sector which would be made available through local authorities and other public

 Creation of a nationally led task force to tackle environ-mental decay, offering young people six-month placements. Reform of the present social security rules on earnings disregards, allowances for childcare costs and the transition from income sup-

port to family credit. It is a crucial New Labour commitment that society must accept a serious obliga-tion to find work for the young unemployed. This will end the long years of Conservative complacency and neglect. In these circumstances the young unemployed themselves have to accept obligations too. Young employed people, when asked, support these principles. To them it is not "workfare". It is fair, and

The Blair Revolution — Can New Labour Deliver? by Peter Mandelson and Roger Liddle is published by Faber, £7.99. To order a copy with free delivery, send a cheque made payable to Guardian Books, 29 Pall Mall Deposit, Barlby Road, London W10 6BL, or freephone

What price reform?

EW Labour has set it-self the task of national renewal. That task will not be completed in a single term of office. A government with its sights set on the long term needs to have the broad-est possible political base from which to obtain consent for change that will last, to overcome short-run unpopularity and to govern in the national interest. For those who are stuck in the traditional confines of narrow party politics, this requires a lot of hard thought, inevitably including consideration of Labour's relations with the Liberal Democrats.

The Liberal Democrats will

The Liberal Democrats will never form a government but they cannot be written off. There is of course, common ground between the parties. There is no doubt at all that, had the outcome of the 1992 election been different, Lebeur and the Ulberal Demo Labour and the Liberal Demo crats would have been natural partners in government had the electoral arithmetic demanded it, as both Neil Kin-nock and John Smith pri-vately recognised. The parties shared economic priorities for investment and employment. and were strongly committed, within responsible financial constraints, to reducing social inequalities and restoring pride in public services, to putting Britain genuinely at the heart of Europe, and to pushing through a legislative programme of radical consti-tutional change.

SINCE Paddy Ashdown ended the Liberal Democrats' formal position of squidistance from Labour and the Conservatives, the overlap between the two parties has become more obtained. has become more obvious. The members of both parties want to right the same wrongs, to end the same injustices, though there are significant differences of tone and substance.

There is no barrier to copperation in terms of princile or policy. However, potential co-operation between Labour and the Liberal Democrats need not follow any pre determined pattern. At local government level there are joint administrations in some shire counties and London boroughs; and in some places the parties remain bitter rivals. At national level co-operation in specific policy areas does not imply or require a pre-election pact or post-election coalition.

Would this involve full Labour acceptance of pro tional representation at Westminster? Labour's Plant commission undertook one of the most exhaustive studies of



Ashdown . . . ideas overlap

proportional representation ever. and still opinion remains split. Undoubtedly it is possible to devise a system that gives a more accurate arithmetical correlation of votes and seats, but will it lead to stronger or weaker government? And would such system give too much power to third or fringe parties?

Proportional representation should be considered as an issue of principle, not the object of horse-trading for narrow party advantage. But it should be remembered that different arguments apply according to the system proposed. Few in Britain would argue for the system of pure proportionality that exists in Israel and permits fringe ex-tremists and every separate ethnic minority and religious group to have representation

in parliament.
The principles that should determine one's view of electoral reform are clear. If it is implemented, it should be as fair as possible, while providing strong government and an effective way for the elector-ate to change the government. In-built stalemate is not democracy. The link between an MP and constituents is also a crucial one and nothing should be done which would

Ultimately the decision to change should depend on the number of voters who, over a sustained period, are dissatisfied by the choice on offer between the two major parties in a first-past-the-post system. If a change is desired, the electoral reform best suried to tackle the remaining unfair-ness in the British voting system is the alternative vote the retention of single member constituencies, but with first-, second- and third-choice voting in order to ensure that MPs are elected with the majority support of their constit-uents. This is the system which Labour now uses in its parliamentary selection

Breaking the cycle of boom and bust

principled objections to expectations. If the British ing if in these circum-economy returns to its bad stances Prime Minister old habits as memories Major and Chancellor high inflation and the control of the bits as memories nomic and social havor it old habits as memories nomic and social havor it old habits as memories gradually fade, the trade-off nomic that seems leads to gradually fade, the trade-off wreaks. Inflation leads to between jobs and pay day. High inflation would restraint will remain to be the long term. revive excessive pay de-mands, engender feelings of desperation among groups left behind, and sooner or later stir up industrial conflict.

It is by no means clear that the Government's present success with inflation will be maintained. Thatcher's true disciples likelihood the apology will That cher's true disciples inkennood the apology was introduced themselves have convinced themselves that it will be. But a plausible alternative view is that to resist the temptation to tional co-ordination. Brit- depend on the success of sure must be resisted, what

haunt us in the long term. The unspoken Tory case at the next general election

will essentially be an apol-ogy: "We have learned from our own past mistakes and can now be trusted to put the goal of macro-economic stability before every other consideration." But in all

ACRO-economic stability is emphasised by New Labour because of Labour because of the ERM-induced shock to is intense. It would be amaz-Clarke put the long-term national interest before their own narrow party in-terest. But, the public will say, could one expect that of any politician? How can New Labour

prove such doubters wrong? The starting point must be realism about what any government anywhere in today's world can achieve. The scope for successful national economic manage-

ain plays from an increas-ingly weak hand. Whether or not a single European currency pro-ceeds and Britain is part of it, much of the UK's economic instability has been magnified by avoidable errors of domestic policy. New Labour has made clear that a growth objective should be set alongside an inflation target. But Labour's objectives for growth and inflation should not be seen as independent of each other. Rather it is arguable that they should be thought of as together constituting a single num-ber for the growth of the value of gross domestic

product at current prices -so-called nominal GDP whether or not this is stated as a formal economic target. Interest-rate recommendations should be made by a monetary policy committee of the Bank of England's executive directors, not the Governor alone. Any fur-

these arrangements. Fiscal policy should be set in the context of a clear mediumterm plan. This should abide by the golden rule of public finance: that current income and current expenditure should be in balance over the economic cycle. While public borrowing should rise and fall in order to help offset temporary fluctuations in economic activity, the only purpose for which an increase in longterm government debt would be permitted should be to finance public

 HE government must also take a view of the acceptable level of pay rises in the economy as a whole and ensure business and the trade unions understand the employment implications of the decisions they take. Labour could find itself under strong political pressure to abandon public-

ever the short-term political | nance. This venture capital pain. Stability must come It cannot be stressed enough that many of the financing problems of Brit-

ish industry bark back to persistent failures of macroeconomic management. Company boards want to see high returns from new investment and insist on short payback periods, in part because all past experience suggests that in Britain there is no long-term stability and no steady demand growth. Instead we suffer cycles of boom and bust, with periodic col-lapses in business confi-

There needs to be a better means of channelling finance for expansion to new, growing businesses — the newcomers who will take the place of failing compa-nies at the top of the league. These businesses require a mixture of packages of ven-ture capital that will offer committed long-term support, together with medium term, fixed rate loan fi-

should not be public money, even if it were to be allo-cated by some form of national investment bank. Assistance to companies could be modelled on the present Investors in Industry, aiming to fill the gap in financing small to mediumsized companies which are at present not adequately served by the banks. Finally, government must do whatever it can to pro-mote a stakeholder culture

in industry and the City. The obsession with the en-hancement of shareholder value as the sole motivation of business activity must be tackled. Institutional reforms will help, but the most radical step would be to amend the responsibilities of company directors, in order to clarify their obligations and extend effi-ciency disciplines to take account of all those with a stake in a company. Above all, the thrust of New Labour policy should be to create a new culture of

Finance Guardian

Bull Ring sold for £30m

BIRMINGHAM'S Bull Ring, a landmark shopping cen-tre since the 1960s (pic-tured right), has been bought for £30 million by the property developers Hammerson, who hope to redevelop the site.

tive. Ronald Spinney, said yesterday: "Our vision is to build a new shopping centre of up to 100,000 square metres, including unit shop-ping and departmental stores, which will revitalise the Bull Ring by substan-tially improving its links with Birmingham's existing prime retail shopping area." Hammerson said that it had exchanged conditional contracts with a subsidiary f the Swedish pension and life insurance company Försäkringsbolaget for purchase of the leasehold. The contract is subject to

the Secretary of State's agreement to give planning consent for redevelopment of the site, which Birming-ham City Council granted at the end of last year. Hammerson owns an

array of shopping centres, including Brent Cross in north London, Merseyway in Stockport, Freshney Place in Grimsby, and The Liberty in Romford.



Home Office set to relax gaming industry rules

Reforms may hearten bingo operators, but | Board — the agency that reg- | hours could, if true, be more ulates Britain's 118 casinos — | controversial. they raise fears organised crime will stage a casino comeback, writes Dan Atkinson

that a deregulated casino in-dustry could again become a those wishing to play the tempting target for international crime.

Rules brought in to help stamp out maffa-type infiltra-tion of gambling clubs in the timbs are likely to be relaxed as the Government acts to strengthen London's competitive position against emergmg gaming centres in western Europe and the former Communist countries.

set to case controls on bingo

HE biggest changes in [tors who claim the rules nearly 30 years to cripple their attempts to com-laws governing the pete with the National Lot-multi-billion pound tery.

gambling business will be put forward by the Home Office tion rose 7p to 484p yesterday in anticipation that the bingo game would be changed. But whereas some deregu-

lation of bingo is relatively uncontroversial, the relaxation of casino law is a potential minefield. Not surprisingly, the Gov-

ernment has taken nearly a year longer than expected to produce today's proposals. Gaming club rules are tightly written and depend to some Today's blueprint is also extent upon each other; it would be difficult to unpick halls; here the push for one without unravelling all. It is thought the Gaming paming - would be cut to 24

scenes battle to retain the key levers of its power to keep ca-sinos "clean". The Home Office is likely to suggest changes chiefly in the peripheral areas where the board has been content to see some

In particular, the rules on payment are likely to change to allow debit cards to be used in the teeth of board opposition. remains to be seen.

The number of towns and cities designated as suitable casino venues is likely to be increased, and there will be considerable easing of the total ban on cosino advertising. Gaming clubs will probably be allowed to advertise in publications simed at tour-

But suggestions that the 48hour "cooling off" period during which a prospective member has to wait before

chairman of the Gaming Board, warned that the "membership principle" was the keystone of casino regula-tion and that its removal would give Britain unfettered public earning.

Casino operators say the rule prevents high-rolling in-ternational gamblers who are along with cheques; whether gaming. While a 24-hour in subsidies meant for two credit cards will be permitted. period would retain the mem-shipyards in eastern period would retain the mem-bership principle, the board may see it as the first step

towards public gaming.
Today's blueprint is likely also to relax the rules generally on fruit machines, including those applying to ma chines in gaming clubs. But the Gaming Board's key power to approve the "fitness and propriety" of would-be casino operators is not under threat; the board believes this power is more important than ever in an era of money laundering and international

> that DM716 million was funnelled elsewhere, mostly into the Vulkan group's loss-mak-ing engineering subsidiary in western Germany and to help purchase other companies.
>
> Mr Horne charged that leading German banks and local politicians were implicated in the cover-up. He said that the lost monies could not

'made illicit use of £386m grant' kan's annual and quarterly reports, but that the indepen-

lan Traynor in Bonn

HE embattled German shipbuilder Bremar Vulkan slipped closer to bankruptry and deeper into embarrassment yesterday, when the country's privatisation agency accused its man-agement of illegally diverting hundreds of multions of murks

Bremer Vulkan

Germany.
The BVS agency said it was initiating legal action against former Vulkan managers for breach of contract in divert-ing more than 80 per cent of DM850 million (£386 million) in subsidies from the stated beneficiaries — the two ship-yards bought by Vulkan after German unification five years ago. In a withering indictment

of mismanagement and cover-ups at the Bremen firm, Hein-rich Horne, the BVS chief, said an independent audit or-dered last week had shown

happened to the missing

millions. A meeting in Bremen last August of Vulkan manage-ment, regional political lead-ers, and officials of the comers, and officials of the com-peny's main creditor banks confirmed that the money had landing portfolio which has

biggest shipbuilder, filed for protection against its credi-tors last week, effectively declaring itself insolvent, after recording losses of DM1 bil-lion last year. The group em-ploys about 23,000 people in its shippards, and in engi-neering and electronics

subsidiaries.
Intensive talks almed at salvaging Vulkan's future by drumming up fresh loens con-tinued in the north German city yesterday after Karel Van Miert, the European Union's commissioner for trade competition, complained that the situation at

originally feared.
Company executives say that Vulkan will be unable to avoid bankruptcy if forced to repay the money that was earmarked for the eastern Germarked for the eastern Germarked for the eastern Germarked for the content of the eastern fearman yards. The banks are being asked to come up with more loans, but are under-stood to be insisting on state be traced by studying Vul- guarantees before agreeing.

Hong Kong risks blight on banking



Edited by Alex Brummer

HE size and spread of the profits of HSBC Holdings, owners of Midland Bank, the HongkongBank Group and Marine Midland in North America, sets it apart from other UK-based institutions. With its operating profits of £3.7 billion it dwarfs even food giant Unilever, which is often viewed as being more like a small country than a consumer products firm. The same, more or less, applies to HSBC which, despite all the changes

it has seen, remains Hong Kong's flagship. Certainly, in 1995 almost £1 billion of income came from the UK's Midland Bank, quite a turnabout from when t fell under HSBC's control. Indeed, in 1996 First Direct, Midland's innovative investment in telephone banking and financial services, was profitable for the first time. Now that the start-up IT and marketing costs have been absorbed this is potentially a hidden jewel for the complex

HSBC empire. The biggest question over HSBC's future performance is not over investment banking, which attracted some atten-tion because of the fall in dealing profits, but over the core of the business — Hong Kong itself.

Despite all the diversifica-tion HongkongBank, includ-ing its Chinese offshoot Hang Seng Bank, remains the big-gest profits contributer with a 16 per cent increase in earnings to £1,4 billion. That is very impressive, but what investors also need to consider before staking funds in HSBC is what the regulators are now calling Hong Kong risk. It is just 16 months until the country moves under the con-

lisappeared, he added.

Bremer Vulkan, Germany's idential mortgages and a further 16.2 per cent in construction and property ought to be closely considered.

Confidence in the financial and property sectors can turn on a sixpence and it is not yet entirely clear that HSBC, despite its move to London, has fully minimised those risks in its balance sheet.

Killing fees

S BID documents go, the £1.9 billion offer by Ren-tokil for BET is a fairly tame affair. There is the usual graphic showing what a won-derful company Rentokil has become, although there must be questions as to whether eanings per share will rise quite so sharply once BET has been absorbed.

The rather gentle approach from Rentokil, in contrast with BET's strong resistance, appears to reflect a belief by its financial advisors,

Lazards, that a deal can still be agreed peaceably. Cer-tainly. Rentokil has looked wrong-footed from day one. when it was forced to make a premature announcement because of leaks on the Srock Exchange, and later, when it clumsily sought to pick key

The one reason an agreed deal would make sense is to reduce advisers' fees. If there is one factor which left a bad taste in the Granada/Forte tussle earlier this year it was the amount of cash squandered on fancy teams of financial advisers and underwrit-ers, which would have paid a ers, which would not the tidy special dividend to the shareholders of each com-pany or, alternatively, allowed a huge increase in in-

Including underwriting, it now looks as if Rentokil's to this BET's defence costs and there will not be much change from £100 million. This is proving to be the real scandal in hostile takeovers - the wanton squandering of shareholders' funds on over-

priced financial advice. If the institutions would use their power more constructively to bring about agreed deals, instead of focusing on bidding up the price and short-term dealing prof-

Casino games

trickier ministerial ac-Jivity than is generally later today when the Home Office discloses the fruits of great cogitation on the subject of gaming and gaming premises, chiefly casinos and bingo halls.

The ultra-strict regime of

the 1968 Gaming Act has given Britain some of the cleanest gambling in the world and, as far as interna-tional high-rollers are con-carned, clean is good. The total "drop" — money staked at casinos — hit £2.46 billion in 1994/95; of that, 70 per cent tween 66 and 80 per cent of it

sino regulation unchanged. But gone are the days when only a handful of Monte Carlo-type jurisdictions per-mitted casino gaming; London is now just one of many European and American centres, all vying for the big spenders, and some relax-

ation is vital.
However, while the predicted easing of the rules on casino advertising, on the use of debit cards for payment and on the "permitted areas" is to be welcomed, there abandoning the principle whereby casinos are clubs, open only to members and

Should the membership concept be dropped, and punters allowed in off the street, the casinos would be the real losers, because the regulatory regime would have to com-pensate by becoming far more intrusive and heavy-handed. An unfortunate outcome for a "deregulation" exercise.

Shares boost for Rentokil men

Heineken snaps up Italian brewer

Udine. is the country's Heineken is strong in the third-largest brewer, with a north." sald Alessandro

10 per cent share of the Papa, a BPI executive.

Lisa Buckingham

the environmental and industrial services company which has launched a #19 billion hostile takeover for rival BET, sold £56 mil-tion worth of shares in their own company less than six months ago, it emerged vestorday.
The disposals were dis-

closed in Rentoku's offer doc-ument for BET, which the aggressor said was an attempt to be "moderate" and leave deal Rentokil's opening as sault was regarded as vitrolic.

KipperWilliams

missed the predator's argu-ments as "backward-looking and outdated". The bid failed to take account of its "impresmount recovery. BET

The offer document revealed that Rentokal's chief executive, Clive Thompson, exercised options on 2.1 milately sold in early September at a profit of £4.39 million. Christopher Pearce, the fi-nance director and the only other executive in the boardroom, sold 670,000 of the 1.4 multion share options he exer- group's record of providing ment in about 10 days' time.

From John Glover in Milan

EINEREN yesterday

reached the parts its Belgian rival, Inter-

brew, brewer of Stella Ar-

tois, didn't want. when it

announced it had bought It-

aly's Birra Moretti. The

cost of the transaction was

reported to be \$150 million-

\$175 million (£97 million-

Birra Moretti, based in

market. Thanks to the pur-

£114 million).

BET, which vigorously disputed the claim that it had of £1.65 million.

The company declined to years provided the opportunities with Rentokil, discomment on the reason for inity to enhance BET's

the disposals, made when Rentokil's share price was 205p Mr Thompson retains 2.8 million Rentokil shares. Mr Pearce has 817,000. Shares in BET gained 2p to 2011 p -just 2p above the share value of the offer. Rentokil's share price clumbed by 1p to 354p. Rentokil, which calculates that costs for the bid will be £57 million, accused BET management of carrying out a rationalisation exercise, providing better operating mar-gins only by making acquisitions. Mr Thompson said his

Birra Peroni Industriale.

With brands such as Per-

oni. Nastro Azzurro and

Wuhrer, BPI has around 30

per cent of the market. Im-

ported beers have about a

fifth and local operations

hold the rest. Brewers com-

plain the market is over-

fragmented and regional-

ised. "Basically, we're

strong in the south and

This is the second trip to chase, which brings its Interbrew's har by Heine- away 39 litres per head; the

market share to over 37 per ken, which has eschewed a British manage 100.

performance.
Rentokil promised benefits to BET shareholders from "Integration of common activ-ities" and "reductions in head office, management and group said that despite BET's a recommendation for its

BET said shareholders were benefiting from its "fo-cused strategy of concentrat-ing on specialist, high value added services". It is expected to publish its defence docu

ian market. A year ago, In-terbrew sold Heineken its

Italian subsidiary. Last

summer, after Interbrew bought John Labatt, the Ca-

nadian brewer, it found

Moretti in its portfolio.

Yesterday's sale was "the

logical consequence" of

that, said an industry

The Italian beer market

is small by EU standards.

Italians knock back only 26

litres of beer per head each year, the lowest in Europe. The French, who, like Ital-

cent. Heineken has vaulted direct presence in the Ital-to first place. Heineken's lan market. A year ago, In-biggest Italian rival is terbrew sold Heineken its

Jurassic Park giant moves to buy controlling stake in Cray

Mark Tren In New York

SILICON Graphics. the computer company that created the graphics for Ju-rassic Park, yesterday came to the rescue of Cray Research as it moved to acquire a 75 per cent stake in the struggling supercomputer company for \$783 million (£508 million). Founded in 1972 by Sey-

mour Cray, Cray Research be-came the world's leading supercomputer maker, selling machines — some costing as much as \$30 million — to the CIA and the Pentagon during the Cold War.

But the increasing power of other computers and defence cuts in the post-Cold War era have severely eroded demand for costly supercomputers. Cray, the last independent su-percomputer company, lost 226 million last year on sales of \$676 million. 26 per cent be-

low its 1994 sales Despite its financial woes, Cray still dominates the market for supercomputers. which are used for specialised tasks like meteorological modelling oil exploration and flight simulations. Its custom- | personal computer business.

ers include the US defence de ers include the us defence de-partment's Advanced Research Projects Agency, Mobil Oil and the French Atomic Energy Commission. Moreover, Cray has a backlog of orders worth a record

\$437 million.

In acquiring Cray Research in a cash and share offer, Silicon Graphics would become the leading player in the supercomputer market. It al-ready leads the market for computers costing \$1 million to \$2 million.

The company has carved out a niche for workstation computers used by Hollywood entists, who rely heavily on visual computing. The acquisition would

allow Silicon Graphics to tap Cray's huge technical capabil-In other developments in

the computer world, Oracle, a software company, unveiled its \$500 computer that would plug into the Internet, receiv-ing its software from the global computer system and bypass the operating systems supplied by Microsoft Oracle believes its cheap instruments will revolutionise the

Exchange hit as small players urge trading reforms delay

Sarah Ryle

THE London Stock Ex-change yesterday suffered a further blow to its proposed trading reforms when smaller players — who are supposed to benefit most from them urged that they be postponed for a year, until mid-1997. The call came from the

Association of Private Client Investment Managers and Stockbrokers (APCIMS), which represents 107 ex-change member firms and other market players such as Mercury Asset Management. Its chairman, John Cobb. told the Commons Treasury select committee investigat ing the exchange's future that

plans to switch from a quote-driven market to an orderdriven market were being run to an "overly tight" timetable. Under the proposals, the market would move towards

whereby investors' buy and sell orders are placed on a central electronic system and automatically enacted when they are matched.

The current quote-driven
Seaq system enables market-

makers to quote buy and sell prices on a stock exchange screen but carry out deals by telephone. This means hig investors can often get better bargains than quoted screen prices while private client stockbrokers mostly pay the full screen price.

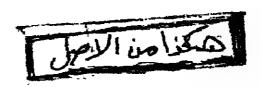
But Mr Cobb told MPs that proposals set out last month could disadvantage his mem bers whose business represents up to 70 per cent of the daily trades on the exchange. He said: " Mid-1997 would be the earliest date to give us breathing space, after other transitions on the market such as Crest [the electronic share-settlement service]."

TOURIST RATES - BANK SELLS Australia 1.97 Austria 15.10 Belgium 44.25 Canada 2.06 Cyprus 0.70 Denmark 8.38

France 7.39

Italy 2,355 Maila 0.5375 Netherlands 2.45 New Zealand 2.23 Norway 9 50 Portugal 226 00 Saudi Arabia 5 73

Singapore 2 13 South Africa 5 76 Spain 181 75 Sweden 10 23



Profits soar at Abbey and HSBC

Roger Cowe and Jill Papworth

unions reacted angrily yesterday to the atest evidence of booming profits in the industry, as Abbey National broke the £1 billion barrier and HSBC reported record profits for any UK

Barclays staff are pressing for a strike ballot in anticipation of record £2 billion profits to be announced today. Barclays' own union, Unifi, revealed yesterday that 83 per cent of staff rejected, the bank's pay offer, and just over half want a ballot on strike action.

HSBC, which owns Midland Bank in the UK, has beaten giants such as BT. Shell and £3.7 billion, an increase of 16

The figure included almost

Britain's biggest profits

Profit £m 1994-95 3316 Unilever 2425 Wellcome

angry response from the BIFU trade union. The assistant secretary, John Brawley, said: "Midland gets a billion. our members get pay freezes were hard, staff were expected to pull in their belts and buckle down. Now they're back into hefty profits. what reward do staff get? The threat of redundancy and

The union said more than 3,000 jobs would go at Midland this year, but the group chief executive, John Bond, The figure included almost said that continued pressure in billion profit from Midland on costs at Midland would not

dancy programmes. He saw no need to slash the branch

network further. We have to do what customers want and they want to be served in the communities they live in. That might mean repositioning from the high street to local shopping cen-tres, but I believe the branch network will survive."

Mr Bond refused to reveal whether the bank had made any provision against its loans to Eurotunnel. It is thought to have an exposure of £250 million and to have earmarked up to £100 million. The chief executive also

sought to play down persis-tent rumours that HSBC is seeking a major takeover. He said the group wanted to boost its fund management business but had not seen any suitable candidates.

He warned that banks' margins were under fierce pres-sure throughout the world a warning which helped to deon profit from Midland on costs at Midland would not press the share price despite in, said its which provoked an include further major redun-profits higher than expected.

Abbey National's share mer building society.vowed to continue its aggressive growth and diversification strategy in pursuit of ultimately becoming the biggest personal financial service 'supermarket' on the high

street.
Following a string of acquisitions. a third of Abbey's £1.026 million profit last year came from businesses outside its traditional mortgage and savings operations.

The plan is to increase that figure to 40 per cent or more double the current 10 per cent contribution from the life and pensions busines

Further acquisitions, par-ticularly in the life sector, are likely. Clerical Medical, currently up for sale, would be "the sort of business" Abbey National would be interested

Triumphant returns . . . John Bond (left) and Douglas Flint of HSBC

High returns belie the risks taken with new acquisitions

Outlook

Roger Cowe

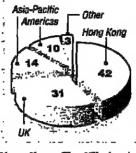
IVE a banker a billion pounds and he will blow it on some crazy project such as Canary Wharf or loans to Bolivia. At least that was the experience of the 1970s and 1980s as banks plunged headlong into one di-saster after another, ignoring the fundamental truth that high returns are usually

associated with high risks. Both HSBC and Abbey proving this first law of banking. however. The substantial profit increases reported yes-terday by both belie their dramatic transformation over the past few years. Both still have scope to make a mess of further strategic developments, but so far they have fully even when they have abandoned caution.

In acquiring Midland Bank. HSBC exposed itself to horland had been on the sickbed for years, after its own disastrous forays into the United States and into third world

sible acquirers, struck when the worst of the horrors had the group chief executive. out. Certainly. Midland's labout next year's handover of esults from Llovas and NatWest, which have already reported on their 1995 perfor-mance, and not far behind what Barclays is expected to produce tomorrow.

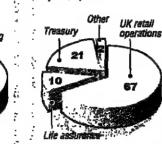
Midland must have been worth the risk of undiscovered black holes, given



Hong Kong. The UK clearing bank has added a substantial European dimension to a lending had weakened its strong historical position in Britain and around the world. Perhaps HSBC, like all sen-still provides the largest

en exposed, if not sorted John Bond, was sanguine to per cent profit increase last | the colony to China, arguing year was in line with the that the key issue was grow-Bank of China rather than the change in political control. The West sees the future of Hong Kong to political terms. But as long as we keep our pencils sharp, our customers

will stay with us." Even without the uncer-



competition from the

Abbey National

& Stock market value \$7.76m

HSBC would probably have been interested in acquiring Midland in the name of globalisation. That is the priority for big banks serving big business customers, who want a bank which can serve

them wherever they go.
The marriage between West, where there are plenty of big businesses, and East, where there is plentiful growth is almost ideal — the drawback being that HSBC is relatively under-represented in the US. But the attraction of an Asian base explains why Standard Char-tered, which will also report results this week, is persis-tently seen as a bid target. Abbey National is in a different league, but one where

diversification and deals are

The former building society showed impressive restraint when it first converted to bank status in 1989. It reso-lutely refused to copy the grim example of TSB in throwing money away on ex-pensive acquisitions.

Now that seems to be changing. In the past few years Abbey has bought Scot-tish Mutual life assurance and the mortgage business of Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, and is planning to take over National & Provincial Building Society.

The pace of change throughout the building society industry has quickened dramatically, with the merger of the Halifax and Leeds and their impending conversion and flotation, as well as the acquisition of Cheltenham & Gloucester by Lloyds Bank.
The argument is that scale

advantage which is the only serious weapon open to ousinesses selling money.
If cost is the only way to

rustomers and staff — faced with a grim time as compa-nies pare to the bone. But they all recognise that service is a more important competitive tool. The only problem is that bankers tend to think of service as pressing even more unwanted pensions and sav-

ings products on customers. its apparently reckless com-mitment to mutuality, promoted last week by rate weapon - making customers

It has the added advantage of not giving Nationwide chiefs the spare cash to blow on crazy projects that they would have if they converted

Sabena chief will quit today

after strikes

cost troubled

airline £20m

Julie Wolf in Brussels

THE head of Sabena. Bel-

gium's national airline,

is set to quit today as part of a management shake-up

following a series of strikes

that have cost the airline more than £20 million.

Pierre Godfroid, Sabena' chairman and chief execu-tive, has been blamed for the troubles after he tore

up union agreements. Swissair, which last year

took a 49.5 per cent stake in Sabena, has also become

Sabena's board is under

pressure to come up with an immediate cost reduc-tion package that can be sold to the trade unions.

which have promised in-dustrial peace only until the end of this week.

Any changes will involve a delicate balancing act,

not just between the Swiss

and Belgian interests in the carrier but also between

Belgium's two main lin

guistic communities — the

straddle these communities because he speaks both Flemish and French lan-

poised yesterday to Win a big order for 20 of its A320s

from Northwest Airlines in a deal worth over \$500 million (£324 million).

Flemish and French.

alarmed at the situation.

News in brief

Blue Circle cuts 450 **UK and German jobs**

BLUE Circle Industries axed 240 jobs in the UK and 210 in Germany yesterday, also warning that 200 more in France are to go. The cuts are part of the restructuring of its heating

division, which will cost 1,300 jobs across Europe.

In the UK, the group is transferring manufacture of Potterion boilers from Warwick to Padiham. Lancashire, by the summer. The previously announced closure of the company's Myson activities relocated to Gateshead by the end of the year. The group's shares rose 8p to 360p on news that the company alms to reduce manufacturing capacity while maintaining Blue

Savoy serves up £11.5m profit

Circle Heating's current revenue base. — Tony May

THE Savoy group, tipped as a takeover target following the acquisition of its majority shareholder. Forte, by the Granada group, reported yesterday a 158 per cent rise in profit to £11.5 million for 1995.

The chairman. Sir Ewen Fergusson, said the improvement stemmed from the introduction of new leadership under the managing director, Ramon Pajares, and better motivation of managers and staff. In addition, the luxury end of the hotels market was "picking up rapidly". Shares remained unchanged at 1280p. — Lisa Bucking hom

Directors carry takeover can

ALMOST two-thirds of UK corporate takeovers fail because they do not enhance shareholder value, the accountancy group Price Waterhouse said yesterday. The firm blamed directors who did not understand how to improve shareholder value.

Mike Maskall, a PW partner, said the shortcomings arose from

the fact that most managers' incentive schemes were based on profits rather than shareholder value; that many companies did not know the true cost of capital; and that a large proportion of managers lacked the financial information to monitor performance. — Lisa Buckingham

guages and comes from Antwerp. • Airbus Industries was Thomson's £2.2bn look West

THOMSON Corporation, former owners of Times Newspapers. announced yesterday it has agreed to acquire Minnesofa-based West Publishing for \$3.43 billion (£2.23 billion) in each. Torontobased Thomson said it expects the acquisition not to reduce earnings in 1997, and to increase them from 1998. - Bloomberg

Domestic gas tariffs review

BRITISH Gas is to review its domestic prices following scrutiny of its tariff structure by Clare Spottiswoode, director-general of industry regulator Ofgas, BG also said it would respond to cut-price offers from competitors in the South-west where trials in a competitive market for household supply start on April 1 — by offering enhanced price-and-service packages to consumers. — Chris Barrie

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MANCHESTER BUSINESS SCHOOL

BT to launch Internet service for new users create a simple and more accessible service," Rupert Gaservices have been disapvin. BT's director of multime-Azeem Azhar

HSBC's uncertain position in | tainties of the colony's future,

RITISH Telecom is to launch an easy-to-use mass market laternet service at the end of next month. BT Internet will be almed at first-time residential and business users, and will compete with existing access

compete with existing access providers like Demon Internet and Unipalm Pipex.

Subscription to BT Internet will cost £13 a month for unlimited use, on top of which subscribers will also have to pay local call charges while player in that marketplace."

While BT is no stranger to connected to the internet. Users will be given all the software they need to send e-

"We intend to rewrite the old Internet rule book and ternet service for European

dia services, said.

Estimates suggest up to 300,000 Britons access the Internet from home today, A report by City firm Durlacher Multimedia has predicted this will rise nearly 20-fold by the end of the decade.

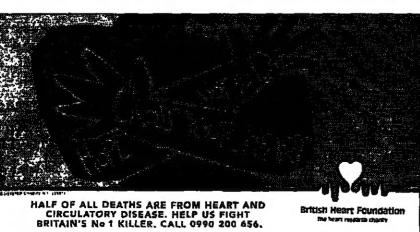
While BT is no stranger to running Internet services it operates SuperJANET, the UK academic network, as well

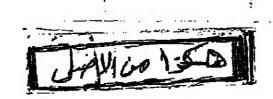
pointing, by and large.

BTnet, an Internet access service for business, launched at the end of 1994, has failed to secure a significant market share and even insiders admit it has performed poorly. It has around 150 business customers who use it for full-time Internet connections. By contrast, American-owned Unipalm Pipex has around 1,300 such customers, up from around 700 six months ago.

David Barrett of Unipalm Pipex, which also has 20,000 dial-up users, said BT's announcement was a "a belated pany to jump on to the bandwagon".









The newly signed 25-stone William Perry is going to be the World League's biggest star

Report by Mike Carlson

Fridge saves the Monarchy

HE earth may shake at White Hart Lane this spring, for William "The Refri-gerator" Perry is coming to the London Monarchs.

The Monarchs yesterday announced the signing of gridiron's ultimate impact

will serve as the focus of

their marketing efforts.
"If Magic [Johnson] can
come back, so can the
Fridge," he says in a pro-

Bears' short-yardage run-ning back, and scored a touchdown in the Bears' Super Bowl drubbing of the New England Patriots.

Seemingly casual to a fault, and looking deceptively out of shape. Perry boys' offensive line aver-became a sort of everyman aged 22% atone at this figure to couch potatoes on year's Super Bowl. Hamboth sides of the Atlantic.

down feat at Wembley the following summer, when his presence brought the American Bowl to the height of its popularity in London. But his relationship with the Bears coach Mike Ditka fluctuated like gridiron's ultimate impact player for the coming World Lengue season. They hope Perry, as an icon of the Eighties, will rekindle the passion for gridiron among the British.

Perry, now 33, will play for the standard \$1,250 (£825) per game, but he has also agreed a promotional deal with the Monarchs and will serve as the focus of

At the Monarchs' press conference, featuring Perry on video from his home in Aiken, South Carolina (just come back, so can the Fridge," he says in a promotional video already prepared by the club.

The man named after a household appliance became a household name in Britain during the 1985-86 NFL season. Perry, then a 22-stone defensive tackle, featured as the Chicago Bears' short-yardage running back, and scored a toughdown in the Bears' Perry currently carries.

Perry currently carries about 25 stone on his 6ft 2in frame, but then the grid-iron has also grown larger since 1985. The Dallas Cow-



More momentum for the Moe-narks . . . Perry has put on weight since playing for Chicago

"The year off has done him good," said Hammond, his smile audible over the phone. "He's had a chance to recharge his batteries. He's in pretty good shape."

Is this a step towards a return to the NFL? "William's not thinking about the NFL now. He's taking it one step at a time." Whatever his role, the Refrigerator is bound to contribute more to the

high-profile signing Gavin Hastings will to the Scot-tish Claymores. "T've got my eye on you, Hastings," grins Perry in another video promoting the club he calls the Moe-narks.

Sport in brief Racing

JAX of Amsterdam, the world and European club champions, will join Manchester United, Nottingham Forest and Chelsea in the four-team Umbro Inter-national tournament in Nottingham on August 3 and 4. All games will be played at Forest's City Ground, one of the European Championship venues in June. Forest will bank all the gate money, the other three teams being paid

Marathon

Vincent Rousseau, second fastest in the world last year, will run the London Mara-thon on April 21. The Belgian's time of the 07min 20sec in Berlin last September was only 30sec outside the world record set by Belaynah Den-simo of Ethiopia sevan years ago. Rouseeu does not run if the temperature exceeds 64F. which probably rules him out of the Atlanta Olympic

Golf

Jody Fanagan, Barciay Howard, Graham Rankin and Gary Wolstenholme — the only members of last September's winning Walker Cup team to remain amateur — are the backbone of a 16-strong Britain and Ireland men's amateur squad named yesterday. Their targets are the St Andrews Trophy match against the Continent of Europe at Woodhall Spa in August and the World Team Championship in the Philippines in November. There are five Scots, four from both England and Ireland and

three Welshman.

904ab M Blankey (tayling), N Colon (Sirt), S branched (tayling), N Colon (Sirt), S branched (tayling).

8 Housed (Cath), J Fannach (Sirt), S Machine (Cath), S Machine (Cathysia Cayling), S Machine (C C Bidwarde (Bath), J Fannagen (Millis B Housseld (Cochrane Caydie), S Man-zie (W Linber), N Bieldhible (Troop beed), E Nelson (Bray), B Consilie (Bande), D Peak (Burghill Valley), G Ro (Palacerigg), M Soulis (Fape-on-Wy Testics (Borobill), C Westman (E Ny Testics (Borobill), C Westman (E Ny

Ajax for Martell reach the City agreement on Ground logo dispute

Chris Hawkins

HE row between the British Horseracing Board and certain sponsors about the exclusivity of advertising on jockeys colours took a twist yesterday when Martell walved their right to insist on the use of their own logo throughout the Aintree Grand National meeting.
While the BHB have de-

while the BRIS have de-creed that ordinary race spon-sors must allow space for other advertising, an excep-tion was made for the Epsom Derby meeting and the National, granting exclusivity to their respective sponsors, Vodafone and Martell.

But the decision of Martell to "hand back" 14 of the 20 races during the three days at Aintree, six of which are on television, can only be con-strued as a constructive at-tempt to keep all parties

marketing for BHB, com-mented: I think Martell have taken a mature view and have shown they understand the importance of the coexis-tence issue. This is exactly what the sport needs." Martell have decided to

take up their option on six races including, naturally, the Grand National, in which

the Grand National, in which they will pay owners £500 plus VAT to let jockeys wear the Martell logo.

The other five races in which they will take up their option, paying owners £50, will be the Aintree Hurdle, Aintree Chase, Foxhunters Chase, Mersey Novices Hur-Chase, Marsey Novices Hur-die and the Martell Cup. Terry Barwick, director of corporate affairs for Voda-fone, said: "It is an interesting development and we have not yet decided what to do

about the Derby meeting, but the big three — Derby, Oaks

and Coronation Cup — will certainly be exclusive to us."
The abandonment of Newcastle yesterday meant that Mark Johnston was unable to give his 33-I Champion Hurdle hope Celestial Key a first run over timber. Johnston hopes to run his four-times Flat winner in the Northern Electric Charity Hurdle at Wetherby tomorrow.

Wether by tomorrow.

Micky Hammond followed his six-timer on Saturday by sending out Twin Creeks to win at Southwell yesterday and the stable's great run may continue with Port In A Storm (3.50) at Catterick this afternoon.

Port In A Storm carries bottom weight in the Greta Bridge Handicap Chase and has a 5lb pull for a five lengths beating by Tresidder at Sedgefield last time.

at Sedgefield last time.

Abbey Lamp (4.20) has a good chance in the Barton Novices Handicap Hurdle. The trip of three miles and a furlong will take some getting, but Abbey Lamp seemed to get it hare last time when third to Radical Choice. Beaten just over a length, he

third to Radical Choice.
Beaten just over a length, he can meet the winner on sib better terms now.

Jenny Pitman's horses are always worth following at Leicester (she was born and brought up in the county) and Jibber The Kibber (2.10), her only runner there today, should go well in the Great Glen Novices Chase. Glen Novices Chase.

This is an interesting race, with Bell Staffboy, second to the very useful Call It Day at Uttoxeter, in the field, and the highly rated Three Philoso-phers making his chasing

At Lingfield, Silktail (4.00) is napped to win the Cook Limited Stakes. This filly had useful form on the Flat last season and did well when close-up third to Colosse over

Catterick runners and riders

2.50 Port le A Storm 2.20 Wild Rose Of York DODY JENNIA PURDLEDÜCK (36) A Succes 5-11-10 1230 SWISS MOURITAIN (46) P Broad 5-11-4

2,20 HODLEIAN HOTICS CLANING HURCLE 24 CE,270

2.50 may tarrestable (inches) makes nowice course (destinated the or \$2.120. TOP FORM TIPM Busichough Grant, S., Prenious June 7 Belling A. 4 onlikes Coune, 5-7 Bellingthamp Grace 3-1 Carnette, 7-1 June Melly, 5-1 Cherus Line, 18-8 commen

3.20 REPORT SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE Des 22,105 CU REPORT SELLING MANDICAP MURDLE DE 12,108

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(ALCH SUPERROOD (10) (CD) R CLOSES 5-12-0

(ALCH SUPERROOD (10) R CLOSES 5-12-0

(ALCH SUPERROOD (ALCH PARIS CHEMICS CONTRACTOR (40) C POINTER 6-11-1 P-2556 CHOROGE LAIRE (40) F Jorden 6-11-0 (APPA, STRONG MEASURE (20) P Chresbrough 6-11-0 (-6) SWYRON (40) M Ruyer 6-16-13 P-2 DARIKA LAD (1485) A MITTON 6-16-12 GUILLESS CONTINACTION PULL PRIMER OF 1970 GENERAL LAKE (40) F. JUGH 8-11-0 STRONG SEEASHEE (20) P. Chembrough 8-11-0 SHYRON (61) W. BURNE 6-10-13 BARNER LAD (1485) A Mirroon 6-10-13

Results

Figure 1 and 12 DBM 12 Land 195 Age 1 - SEPRIT DE 2000 (200 47 Helbs) 1 - SEPRIT DE 2000 (200 47 Helbs) 1 - SEPRIT DE 2000 (200 47 Helbs) 1 - SEPRIT DE 2000 (201 17 Helbs) 1 - SEPRIT DE 2000 (201 17 Helbs) 2 - SEPRIT DE 2000 (

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SOUTHWELL
1.20 (27): 1, DESERT NEVADOR, Mins A
Clash (7-1): 2, Love Loyend (8-1); 3, KarInska (9-2 km) 11 ran. 5, 12 (D Chapman)
1 rate: 15-40; 25-60, 12-60, 12-60, Dasi F.
E27-60 frio Tay 10 CSF 558 17. Tricest
E25-26
1.80 (60): 1, BOLD ARESTOCHAT, F.
Lynch (2-1 lan): 2, Brookhand Lady (3-1):
3, Miteoset Radder (13-2): 11 ran, NK nK (F)
Hollumband Tole (23-2); 11 0, 15 0, 11-60
Duaf F & 60, The F17-30 CSF 58.53, Tricant C41, 62

178.45 5.50 (1m 40); 1, CVESTERARI, T Williams (15-8 tav); 2, Los Alemos (7-2); 3, Rela-misos (2-1); 8 ran. 6, 1% (J FitzGeraki) Tols 12.30; 02.40 (1.10, 01.40 Dusl F 12.60, CSF. 08.51

CSF, CS 53
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4.20 (67): 1, MISS OFFERT, T Williams
4.20 (67): 1, MISS OFFERT, T Williams
4.20 (67): 1, MISS 2, MISS OFFERT, T WILLIAMS
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1/10: 15:C.10. CSF 1: 9 15. Treast ESF.94.
4.50 (1m 37): 1, DERAS, J Formato (13-6)
4.50 (1m 37): 1, DERAS 1: CS 00 THE CT 70.
CSF, V. 11. Treast CI 6: 66.
ARCHOTIC EST 1: 10. DE 10: 04. CAPPER OPER JACKPOTI 97,100, \$8,510.04 carried over to Calterick today PLACEPOTICS.70 GUADPOTICS.60 MENCASTLE Mandoned, front

2353-4 POSITIVE ACTION (144) (CD) M Barnes 10-45 211211 MENNALL PRINCE (44) (CD) A Streeter 8-11-4 3-3LBJS CROSS CANDON (45) (MF) J Heldism 10-11-4 P-45117 TRISUDGER (15) CD) M W Barneter 14-1-3

S25(-4) RADICAL CHORDE (NO) (CD) J Charlino 7-12-0 (h)P BRIGGE PATR) (14) 7 Emirory 5-11-10 (B4-CS ARREY LABO (NO) Howard Johnson 7-11-5 (12)(F) BALLSHIMR (17) J Brisse 5-1-1

4.55 AVERABLE INTERMEDIATE HATCHAL IRBIT FLAT S. \$1.511 U BASECTORT (28) bles 5 Wisemenn 6-11-3

0 SCSTOR SAM (54) R Woodbuss 5-11-3

0 SCSTOR SAM (54) R Woodbuss 5-11-3

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0 SEPPER STRIPE (140) Mrs 5 Sents 5-11-3

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O CARLING FORD LASS (199) F Jurism 6-19-12

O CARLING FORD LASS (199) F Jurism 6-19-12

OLDER MINISTA (19) S Additional 4-19-2

OLDER MINISTA (19) S Additional 4-19-7

O CHALPY DAY'S BILL (24) K Morgan 4-19-7

O CHALPY LOSS (ALC (28) Marie Todewise 4-19-7

SIGNIFICATION (ARMOST SWILLOW)

TAKED MAN (19) R Price 4-19-7

TRANSLAND MAN (19) R Price 4-19-7

TRANSLAND MAN (19) R Price 4-19-7

TRANSLAND J O Neil 4-19-2

PROMITED MAN (25) A COM 4-19-2

RED TROW MAN (25) A COM

1956: Old Bridge 7 11 8 S Moltall 7-E (A Tomail) & res Telthings 8-4 Jibber The Kibber, 5-2 Ball Steffloy, 7-2 Three Pi Tyer, Just For A Laugh, Knodlayeny.

kton Poter is Sey (Haydock 2nd.), SED. JUST FOR A LAUDAN Tuiled oil when pelled up before 3 but in map won by Beauchiapp Greco (Leicester 2008), GA. SPARIGUING SPIRIT: Never dangerous, (Hatange Sul oil 4 thinhers to Trylog Agala, (Townsector Sulfi, Stj.

2.40 ON THE REMEMBER CHARLES IN CO. 191 2 21-34 19917H (24) M W English 9-12-0
2 21-35 HENTER GODY (12) (10) (89) J 100g 10-11-12
2 4500-4 782-0000 (20) (10) (20) J 100g 10-11-13
4 1019* MAIN MODO (20) (10) G 10-11-10
5 0-11/19 HEZ-ASFAY (89) (10) Capt T Ferrer 7-11-8
6 P39415 SATTORING (12) (12) T Thomson Journ 70-10-10
7 33422 SR NOCKEY (82) (82) R 10 (64) 11-10-0
8 549-20 PROMANDER (78) Mrs A Woodroe 13-10-0

TOP PORM TIPS: Nan Head &, family 7, Minter Golfy & hathar 7-2 Isayin, 4-1 Man Mood, 9-2 Philoleus, Mister Cody, 6-4 Dr Pocint, 7-1 Sectorius.

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3.10 NUTLAND WATER MOTION CHARGES AN COLORS 012-317 Act THE WAR (17) (0) A Tyund 7-11-4
00:01-1- WROSH (00) 7 Forter F-11-4
20:0-15 Do HERTY Y (NS) M Evadeback 7-15-4
9-31-12 PACTHERISECTIC ANY (RS) (0) D Nicholas 7-16-4
10-0.0 CHOST PACES (13) IN Velocio-Device 7-16-2
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44:297 GO SALLESTIC (3) J O Shee 7-10-12
44:297 GO SALLESTIC (3) J O Shee 7-10-12 JOE BECKEY R Lot 7-10-12 6-PPRA LO-FLYING BESTLE (11) R Dicks E-10-12 (F MAJORS) BEACT (41) City T Forthe 7-10-12

Lingfield (All-weather Flat) 2.50 Blue Flytr 4.00 SILKTAIL (nep)

2.30 COLUMNUS CLAMINIS STATUS TO SUM!

271-23 IM MUNICIPALITY (20) (IP) G. Licom 5-6-4
2 00:00-6 ORANDO FLACE (1-0) (IP) Theorem 5-8-4
3 51:203 SMLOS (6) (IP) Thungton 5-9-2
4 72-4-1 SMESTO CLASSEC (1-0) (IP) Meant-Ells 7-6-2
3 30-147 STAR TALENT (2) (IP) (IP) Meant-Ells 7-6-2
4 3-7:723 SARMINI (7) (IP) R D'Sulver 11-8-6
4 3-7:723 SARMINI (7) (IP) R D'Sulver 11-8-6
TOP FORM TIPE IN Reversaled 8, Spandy Classic 7
1998 Smeat September 4 2 27 New 13-8 (IR Semplis) 7 new 3.00 VASCO DA CAMA MARDIR STANCE 14 25 CLASS

1 22003-6 JRBS (S) C Horray 6-8-11
2 0-0345 22005 FLYER (B) A Moore 6-8-10
3 0532 CAMADOR (15) B Smart 6-9-5
5 04-3 BLOOT OFFERROR (15) C British 3-8-5
5 04-3 BLOOT OFFERROR (15) C British 3-8-5
7 3-8 BITA MARIA (160) Paul Smith 3-3-2 70P FORM 17PG Sund Offering S, Consider 7 1995: Maga Tid 3 7 15 S Sandons 14-1 (S A Pearse) 10 cm

3.30 LIVEROSTORE RANDICAP STO 1 ... CA/CO 1 (3-671) BLUE FLYER (19) (CD) R Ingran 5-7 2 (171-12 CAMMATTHE BAY (3) (E) GL More 5-6 3 (1-6 ACCOUNTABLY JEEDER (19) (C) K McAell 4 (40-21 LARCASHIRE LEGERS (7) S Day 5-6)

1965: Greentsh Agels 2 8 7 0 Curter 5-4 (T G Mile) 7 mm 4.00 cook limited strates the 27 tales 1 (0714) - COMEDY NEWS (977) (2) N Berry 1-0-0 2 (05-40) DIA GEORGY (3-0) (C) Min N Macaniny 5-0-0 3 (095-00) GEORGEAL (4875CX (467) P Hotor 5-0-0 4 (000-00) KIGHTANYANS WAY (12) (530) A Moon 5-0-0 MANUEL LUNAR PRINCE (237) T Chimmit 5-9-0 ...

Condy Bord 11th C Bedgeen 1 J Parismo 3 J Colon 10 Jt Lappin 6 J McKepton 000001-1000 OF FORM THE SHOULD A, Hely To 7, Z-644.8

1996; Putter Dan 6 9 0 3 Well SCHOOL FAILURE DAME S OF THE STATE OF THE ST

4.30 WALTER BALLISH HANDICAF OF CR.816. 100-1 SEARP 91 SEMENT (17) (CC) (D) 8 8min 4-40-2 (0-112 SEARP 91 SEMENT (17) (CC) (D) 8 8min 4-40-2 (0-112 SEAR) 11) (CC) 1 5min 5-41 (0-122 SEARP 91 SEARP (CC) (CC) 1 100 5-40 24-1022 SEARP 90 (12) (CC) (10) N (400 5-4-2 113-30 DESCRIBE JUCK (23) (C)) (Bright 2-4-0 TUP FORM TIPE Stop 'N Smot S, Kita 7 1996: Car Simin 5 8 11 C Scally 7-2 (K Josey) 6 rest

Cottings S-1 Sharp Ti Smart, T-2 Containg Jack, 4-1 Sharp lunp, King, 7-1 City Sharint, S-1 Seathern Tomoreum, TS-1 Raydom. Blinkered for the first time: CATTERICE: 1.50 Hey Up Dolly: 3.20 Golden Fish; 4.20 Sierre Madrona, LEICESTER:

2.10 The Tartan Dyer. LINGFIELD: 4.00 Bandra.

Leicester with guide to recent form

FORE-L MONE, OF OLITS (1980) (MP) A Ternel 10-12-0
31733-2 COUNTERS VERMINGHAL (S7) K Budley 10-12-0
0173-2P PROCESSION (40-02) A FRESHMAND 8-11-0
4535-55 CALAMETER (1-0) (7) M W Enstandy 11-11-6
AFT-SE-P ME METATER (1-0) (10) M W Enstandy 11-11-6
PROCESSION (1-0) (40) (10) (10) M W Enstandy 11-11-6
PRE-SECTION (40-1) (10) (10) M W PROMISON 12-14-14
PRE-SECTION (1-0) M WESSION 1-10-13

TOP FORM TIPS: Cou

tear Yermakika B. Hord Of Oaks 7, Calabrace 6 1995 Landstheelines 10 10 8 D Gallagier 7-2 (J Noptions) 10 mm Betting: 7-2 Boyd Ot Ceta, 5-3 Countees Veruschie, Peruvica Gale. 6-1 Distan Businghol, 19-1 Richlerianos.

POUNT QUEINT - INCIDENCE OF OATS: Cheed lesier, clustergad lest, ridden to lead lest, caught close home, 2nd of 8, bit Hd, to K C & Darrow (Chellechem Seri), Col—Frd COUNTRIES VERSIONALIC Cheed whose from 4 out, no impressive from 2 out, 2nd of 4 Ansthers, bin 20 by Manner (Theodosts Seria, Col-Sis, Col-S

4.10 morrows notices authorize the state and at their tables

TOP POSE (19th The Sire Paries & Majoranine 7, Seet He

Stamp Performer. — THES SHY! PALIFISE SLOWLY away on napprocessors, headway ballway, weakened approaching 2 out, 30 of 5 Seaters, his 25 to Major Service (Stateborn Crude, Gd-Std. High TREAMY) highly up, headway ballway, 3rd when blandered and senseted rider 2 out behind Solte, 15 non-Sedeptical 2 out, 600.

BEALEY PRESCRIBER: hierer placed to challways lest have when 5th of 9 Systems, per 45t to Drabbargie (Warnets 2 out, Gd-Std.)

CLD BEOMETY to headcap bardin test pase when led 48t to 4 out, soon washaned, aut of 12 Seaters, bin states 60 to Ever Scale (Seators 2 out 6, 500.

TYPIAN BEOMETY to headcap bardin test pase when led 48t to 4 out, soon washaned, aut of 12 Seators 2 out, 600.

STRAN BEOMETY to headcap bardin test pase when led 48t to 4 out, soon washaned, but 12 Seators 2 out, 600.

CHARLEY HOUSE Always behard, hadden 4 out, soon washaned, 4th of 10 Seators, but 15t to Lay 6 Of Wallets. 5th. CHANGERT SECTIONS, CAPALIZE THE With fenders self weakured 4 out in bandcaip hardle last bine when 15th of 16, JUST OWN, CAPALIZE THE With fenders hadle, Gaj.

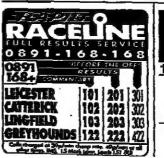
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4.40 SYSTOK HANDICAP CHASE 34 47 110745 C3,342 7 YETOM MARIOCAP CHARK See of 110yde CL348
2-7574 LABLERIANE (10) (CD) B Mailmen 9-11-10
912-99 ARROCHOMY CHEST (10) (CD) D GENGOR 10-11-5
50200 REBERTUR (44) F Riches 9-11-4
17284- WAYDPHILL (344) (CD) J O'NEW 9-13-4
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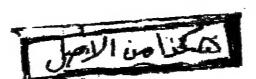
TOP FORM TIPS: Julieruster B. Routin Air 7. Descendable 8 196: Pile Content 11 12 0 W Member 3-1 (No. J Plense) 4 mm Bettings 9-4 Fixelic Air, 4-2 Desperoichie, 5-1 Jaillorebler, 7-1 Wayuphili, 6-1 Harrysp. Artiscowy Chief. 19-1 Youka Fisz.

mas obstall – Jaju breitäjacette in touch well wenkerned 3 cust, 27) Abs of 14 Smartners to Despurateirie, with BCARCHET CHRIS (the 1905), never placed for challenge, 305 Gis (Window 2005), Gis). NRKA 1922: Chesch Instaler, led 3 cus to 2 cust, spool vestioned, das of 6 Smishers, bits 1008 to Le Cing Note wheelcom 2nn CMS. ADSKA FIZZY CIRCAGO HEADY, NO 2 COL 10 2 CVC, SUCH PRIMARIA III.
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FORMATICAE TRUMPIC Signely away, sever broddled leadens, 125 Sib of 6 Belathers to Gilga Mirage with
AMARD BAY (not, builed oit, desawa just (Feloardson South, Gd).
BAYARD BAY Chused within, hapt on one pace, 51 2nd of 6, to Larry's Lord (Beuthwell Zook), Gd).





CHELTENHAM RACECOURSE



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THE METERS

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SPORTS NEWS 15

Soccer

Anderton ruled out of Euro '96

Martin Thorpe

NGLAND's hopes of uropean Championship success suffered a setback yesterday when it was revealed that Darren Anderton is almost certain to miss Euro '96

The Tottenham winger's long-standing groin injury, first operated on in Septem-ber, has still not bealed and his manager Gerry Francis

admits there is no telling when the 23-year-old will return. "He might make it before the end of the season."

Terry Venables has kept in touch with Anderton, recognised the season." said Francis, "but time is running out."

Even if he does manage to play towards the end of Tottenham's 11-match run-in he will still need to reach full match fitness, then require more time to be reintegrated into the England team. It is a tough prospect, not helped by the fact that Anderton is suf-

nising him as one of the few consistent and classy players in the England team. But although the coach will be look-ing to leave the Euro '96 door open until the last minute. Tottenham are not prepared to rush the player back into action until they are certain he is fully recovered.

Anderton started three

first-team matches just three weeks after a summer hernia operation only to break down again, necessitating a second operation in Novembe We want him back and we

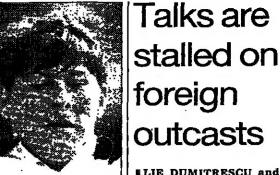
appreciate England want him," said Tottenham's physiotherapist Tony Lenaghan. "But it doesn't matter if he doesn't play for the rest of this season. What is impor-tant is that he is eventually fully fit. If it takes longer, it takes longer."

not helping. "He is very de-pressed," said Lenaghan. "A few months ago Darren was being bailed as the best player in England. Now noth-ing. He is an active athlete who sees time slipping by and it is difficult for him to accept he cannot join in with train ing and matches. But we are

addressing the problem."
The operation in November was to remove a three-inch piece of scarred muscle from

Anderton's state of mind is | the inside of his right thigh. But a one-inch cyst - which said the surgeon John King 'would have been enough to stop him playing without the muscle problem" — was also discovered and removed. "Al this stage it is impossible to say whether he will play this season. The main problem now is persuading Darren be

is getting better."
As Anderton spends long, depressing hours strengthen-ing his leg with stretches and



Anderton . . . depressed

than reflect on the words of his manager in seeking a sense of proportion. "At least again," said Francis. "My aunt died of cancer at 39 so what's happened to Darren isn't the end of the world,"

LIE DUMITRESCU and Marc Hottiger's transfer moves stalled again yesterday. Their work-permit appeals remain unresolved after talks between senior football administrators and officials of the Department for Education and

Employment.
The meeting at Lytham. called by the junior DfEE minister Cheryl Gillan to discuss rule changes, broke up at lunchtime without a decision. It was attended by representatives of the Football League, the Professional Footballers' Associa-tion. the Football Association and the Pre-

mier League,
A DfEE statement described the talks as "a useful first meeting" and added: "Further meetings are to be held with the football bedies and it is housely ball bodies and it is hoped to complete the round of

discussions shortly."

West Ham want to sign the Romanian international Dumitrescu from Tottenham for £1.5 million, and Everton are ready to pay Newcastle £700.000 for the Swiss international Hottiger.

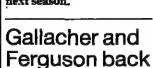
They have been refused new work permits because they have not played in 75 per cent of games for their present clubs, although they met the criterion of 75 per cent of matches for their countries.

It was those criteria which were under discussion yesterday. Both players are PFA members and Everton's manager Joe Royle has asked whether they should be prevented from working by their own union. George Weah, the world.

European and African player of the year, escaped with minor injuries when he and his AC Milan teammate Marcel Desailly were involved in a car crash. Their car skidded and

crashed against a guardrail outside Imperia, an Italian town 25 miles from the French border. Weah. the Liberian striker who joined AC Milan from Paris St Germain, was driving. He injured a finger and was treated at the scene.

 Alexi Lalas, the colour ful United States World Cup defender, is to be released by his Italian club Padova and will play for the new US Major League



Patrick Glenn

SCOTLAND's manager Craig Brown gave sev-eral players the opportunity to resuscitate interna-tional careers when he named a 32-man squad yesterday for the gathering on the Ayrshire coast next Monday and Tuesday.

time regulars such as Ever-ton's Duncan Ferguson, John McGinlay (Bolton). Kevin Gallacher and Billy McKinlay (both Blackburn) and the Rangers pair Ally McCoist and Gordon Durie. All have something to prove between now and

June.
The Celtic pair of Brian
O'Neil and Phil O'Donnell
are recalled after being hindered by injury for the past year. O'Neil, the central defender, returned for his club only three weeks ago after 10 months' inactivity with knee damage, and O'Donnell bas suffered

Much trimming will be done — and other, younger players may be drafted in — as Euro '96 approaches. For those players who have not featured for some time because of injury or loss of form the next two months

"But there are one or two in the younger squad who are also on the fringe of promotion. Some of the guys in the group next Monday and Tuesday may



Shattered dreams . . . disappointment for a young fan

John Duncan on the latest Conference club denied entry to the League because their ground was not up to scratch in time

Stevenage stymied by 'silly rule'

urday roars of Stevenage ers. huddled comfortably underneath the neat aluminium roof that shellers part o the club's shallow modern terraces, next to the swirling steam billowing from the halfway-line ten hut, just to the left of the temporary social club (built 1984) - one could hear a dream being

Stevenage may win the GM Vauxhall Conference this year - if Saturday's gutsy. 10man, 1-0 win over Hednesford is anything to go by they will - but no matter what they are not going to be promoted to the Football Lengue. Their most impossible to ground did not have the overcome," complained the

so they cannot go up. End of

It is a silly rule, say Stevenage. They were happy to guarbe up to standard by the time they kicked off in the Football League, they just did not have the money to do the work by December.

Even more absurdly, Stevenage will start next season with a ground of League standard, with £800,000 of work due over the next summer. Only the early deadline has defeated them.

"Why do they insist on De-cember 31 other than to create an obstacle which is al-

sides to gamble up to £1 million without knowing whether they will even go up. Slough were top at Christmas

relegated.
"For us this is bureaucracy stifling the development of the game. We will give any guarantees they want that the work will be done in time and they can fine us whatever they want if it isn't, but they are not interested. What is worse, you know, there are three clubs in the Third Division that don't even meet the basic requirement." The Foot-ball League was unavailable yesterday to comment on that allegation.

That Stevenage are even in

Paul Fairclough, a silver-haired local schoolteacher of Evertonian extraction who joined as manager in 1990 where in the second division

of the Isthmian League.

They won the title in his first season and won the first division in his second Seventh in the Premier next, top the season after that and they found themselves in the Conference. They were fifth last season and are top now; the only way ought to be up. Stevenage Borough were formed in 1977 as a park youth team after the demise of the deht-ridden Stevenage

could use it. The club were kicked out of

the Southern League and a youth team was formed on a was four years before Steven-age, by then in the United Counties, came back to their Broadhall Way home. In the 20 years since then Stevenage have demonstrated what the pyramid is supposed to be all about. This year they offer the best evidence that it is be-coming a joke.

Nobody would suggest there is any kind of cosy con-spiracy; it is merely an unfor-

not gone into the Football League. Macclesfield had the same problem last year, Kidderminster the year before. "You have double stan-

"Football League clubs have got three years to get their grounds up to scratch. Why can't we? We have to do it eight months in advance. It is another blow to the status of the Conference. We are supposed to be a feeder league and yet once more a club could be denied promotion.' From the terraces and their

success. We've gone too high too quickly in some ways,' said Simon Mortimer, who runs the supporters' associa-

But for how long?

years in a row.

Rugby Union

Hockey

Cricket

ice Hockey

BRITISH LEAGUE: Div

The four-year ban imposed in 1993 or Austria's torner European Indoor come champion Andreas Berger has been lifted but he is unlikely to race waam. In July 11 forn 33 said Berger, who look anabolic seroids. "What else is tiere to say?

problem is that you lose play-

ers if you don't go up." said

Mortimer. "This isn't a league that anyone wins two

Premier Divisions Arnold Tn v Sheffold, Matteld Main v Ossell Tn Leegate Cape Fourth resents N Fernivo Utd v Ossell Allo Presidents Cups Fourth resents Liver-sadge / Brigg Tn. PONTINE LEAGUE: First Divisions Sheft Wed v Durb (7 ft)

Wed v Derby (7 0)
LEAGUE OF WALES: First v Corney: Lian-santificat v Barry
HISSH LGE: First Division: Omagis v
Batlymens

any change in the league. The players, who might be ing and after it we went out and won 8-0. The players have responded really well."

new-town diaspora of Arsenal, Chelsea, West Ham and Tottenham bobble hats. tunate coincidence that, if and Tottenham bobble hats, Stevenage do win the title and there is something of a Athletic. When that club went do not go up, it will be the resigned air among the 1.700 bust in 1976 the chairman dug third time in a row that the or so regulars.

TEMBERTS SOUTHEN CUP: Forthermond replays Forther Andre.
SCOTTESH LEAGUE: First Divisions
Dundee Unit v Morton. Record Divisions
Ayr v Clyde, Stenhousemuir v Sulrling.
SEMI-PROFESSIONAL INTERNATIONALE England v Rep ol Ireland.
OM VAUXNALL CONFERENCE Runcom v Salestand / 25

Madock V Frakley, President's Caps Second-round replay: Radicitie v Bamber Bridge Premier Divisions Bromley v Partiest 17.45: Grays v Hendon (7.45). Stron v Yeavul, First Divisions Thame Utd v Bognor Regis Tn; Uxbridge v Wembley, Second Divisions Bedford Tn v Egham Tn; Hamplon v Challont St Peter. Third Divisions Cliption v E Thurrock Utd. Henthort Tn v Northwood; Horsham v Camberley Tn Carticos Caps: Reserts rounds Banelead Aft v Brachell Tn; Bullericay Tn v Bishop Stortiord; Tilbury v Ware: Wirvenhop Tn v Carney Island.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier Divisions Amerisone v Merthyr: Burion v Dorchoster (7.45). Chollemham v Gloucealist (7.45). Chollemham v Gloucealist (7.45). Chollemham v Gloucealist (7.45). Sections Blackspool Revs v Prescoi (7.45). Beodies Buckingham In v Bedworth Utd.

New COUNTESS LEAGUE: Print Divisions Blackspool Revs v Prescoi (7.45). Bootle v Darwen: Kidsgrove Ath v Eastwood Hanley.

Pools Forecast

expected to be most affected. are chugging along nicely. "I told them we wouldn't be going up prior to the Runcorn game in November," said Fairclough. "We had a meetfor Scotland

This first preparation for Euro '96 will include one-

CIS IRSUPANCE COUNTY CHARPION-SMIP! Southern semi-final: Middlesex v Surrey (Staines) CLUB MATCHES: Cardiff v Bridgend (7 D) Maesieg v Lianoli i7 O), Newbridge v Pontypcol 17.0), Pontypridd v Cross Keys (7 D, Tondu v Neath (7-15): Lydney v RAF (7.0) WRU INDWEEK COMPETITION: Pool C: Caerphilly • S Wales Police (7,0) VARSITY MATCH (Sonning 2.45): 0:10rd Univ + Cambridge Univ WOMEN'S TOUR MATCH (Bisham 5.30) Trojang v Plustee 1/-21. WILLS WORLD CUP: Group A: Bombi India / Australia (9.0am), Group St. Fair Inhad: New Zealand v UAE (4.0am), from a groin problem most of this season.

will be significant.
"You'll notice I've delib-"You'll notice I've deliberately not picked any of the Under-21 lads," said Brown, who will oversee the group for the two days at Troon. "That's because they're off shortly afterwards to play Hungary in the quarter-finals of the European Championship.
"But there are one or two

Monday and Tuesday may be running out of time."

SCOTLAND SOUAD: Corare [Rangers] Came [Norwith] Laighton [Hipernian]. Sooth (Aberden), Boyd (Cellic), Burley (Chelisca, Calderwood (Tollenham), Collins (Cellic), Durie (Rangers), Ferguson (Sverton), Callacher (Blackburn), Gerton), Gallacher (Blackburn), Genemill (Nollingham Forest), Hondry (Blackburn), Jankson (Hibernian), Jans (Coventy), Maalister (Leeds), McCall (Rangers), McGallack (Rangers), McGallack (Rangers), McGallack (Coventy), McKimmio (Abordeen), McKimsey (Cellic), Mertin (Motherwoll), Mertin (Tranmore), O'Domnoff (Cellic), O'Medi (Cellic), Bobertaga (Hearts), Shearor (Aberdeen), Belingham (Hearts), Shearor (Pariet), Beener (Pariet)



ice Hockey

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Vic Batchelder

HE success-starved New-castle Warriors enjoyed a weekend which yesterday had their coach Gary Douville claiming: "From what we could control we accomplished everything." The Warriors are on the

verge of completing a transformation to match the turnaround in personnel since Donville took over in Novemher. Only six of the 16-man squad for Saturday's 5-5 draw at the Sheffield Steelers and a -3 victory over the Kings in Million Keynes on Sunday were with the club then.

After collecting six points from the first half of their 36game schedule. Warriors now have 20 with three matches left and, although still second

Aston Villa

Blackburr

Brentford

Burnicy

Chefsea

Everton

Coventry City

Derby County

Hudd. Town

meet again tomorrow at the

Marple are old friends. They

second-placed Cardiff lost at Fife (6-5) and Durham (4-3).

The Manchester Storm. Division One champions in their first season, continue to pull in the fans. Four games in eight days at the Nynex from bottom, are only a point. Arena drew a total attendance behind the Kings. The sides of 47,422.

19 Shoffield United

03 Sheffield Wed.

35 Southhampton

01 Tottenham Hot.

West Ham

Wimbledo

12

04 · Stoke City

02 Sunderland

Badminton

Susanti set for the stemest Newcastle Arena. Douville and his Milton Keynes counterpart Stan

Richard Jago

Marple are old friends. They played junior hockey together and served as best men at each other's weddings. "We're very competitive guys," said Douville. "When we played the game it was only one way: to win. And we coach the same way."

It was a good weekend for Sheffield, despite being held to a home draw. They require only one more point from their last three games to retain the league title, after second-placed Cardiff lost at

Susanti and her Chinese rival are likely to be the top seeds at the National Indoor Arena in Birmingham on March 12-16.

Susanti, whose clashes with the Chinese player have proved the most excit-ing in recent years, hopes to retain her Olympic title in Atlanta to round off a distinguished career before marrying the 1992 men's singles gold medal winner Allan Budi Kusuma.

Allan Budi Kusuma.
The closeness of the cutoff date, May 1, for the
Olympic qualifying period
has provided a boost for the
All-England, whose entry
has increased from 327 to
358 players and from 27 to
36 countries.
Roth singles champions

Both singles champions will be defending their titles and Lim Xiaoqing, the China-born Swede, and Poul-Erik Hoyer from Denmark will find it extremely difficult. Lim is recovering from a knee operation and Hoyer must cope with the world champion Heryanto Arbi, twice an All-England

Cricket

FA VASE Semi-final drawn Brugg Tn v
Finton, Mangotsfield Und or Raunds Tn v
Cliffieroe (Fast leg to be played on Sal,
March 15, second leg Sal, March 23).
AVON INSURANCE COMMUNATIONS
First Divisions Swindon 0, Portsmouth 0
SOUTH AMERICAN OLYMPIC QUALIFYIMOS Group As Peru 2, Bollyla 1; Urugulay 3, Paraguay 2, Standinges 1, Brazil
Jobs 2, Uruguay 9; 3=, Paraguay, Peru 2,
5, Bolivis 0. Hockey

Golf

Results

Tennis

MILAN INDOOR TOURNAMENT: First round: G Forget (Fr) bt J Hanquez (Fr) 6-3, 6-4. A Booteck (Fr) bt D Norman (Bel) 7-5, 6-3; R Furthan (R) bt J Hazek (Switz) 6-4, 3-6, 6-1; M Russh (Ven) bt I Gauck (II) 6-4, 3-5, 6-1; M Navarra (III) bt D Flock (US) 7-5, 6-3. TERS (Coydon): First rounds 0 Sels (Isr) bt A Foster (GB) 3-6. 5-3. 6-4. L MESigan (GB) bt 7 Spinks (GB) 6-3. 3-6. 7-5 C Seacher (GB) bt R Koentg (SA) 8-4. 5-2. 5-6. 1 Supposed (GB) bt R Masson (Meth) 6-2. 6-1. S Groom (Neth) bt A Klintov (Mac) 6-7. 6-4. 6-2 C Heggard (SA) bt N Gould (GB) 7-5. 6-2.

Basketbali

Basketball

MBas Chrosgo 111, Oriando 91; Washingcon 111, Mehraukes 102; Municeota 76, Aslenta 92; Process 113, New York 105, Varicontrol 11, Mehraukes 105; Manil 108,
Ouver 84, San Antonio 95, Manil 108,
Ouver 84, San Antonio 95, Manil 108,
Oronio 93; LA Cippers 101, Seattle 108,
Ivronio 93; LA Cippers 101, Seattle 108,
Landing standings: Eastern; Confercence Athentic Divisions 1, Oriendo (W40,
L15, Pct. 727, G80), 2, New York 632–21604–71, 3 Miami (26–29–473–14), Central
Divisions 1, Chocago (49–6–891–0), 2, Indiana (34–20–6391–187), 3, Cleveland (31–22–
585–17), Western Conference Hildwest
Divisions 1, Ush (36–17–679–0), 2, San
Antonio (39–17–579–0), 3, Houston (36–20–
52–13), Pacific Divisions 1, Seattle
(42–12–778–0); 2, LA Lakers 133–20623–34; 3, Process (27–26–509–147).

Chickeat

world champion Heryanto Arbi, twice an All-England winner.
England's hopes rest with Julie Bradbury. ranked No. 3 in the world in the women's doubles with Joanne Wright and No. 5 in the mixed doubles with Simon Archer.

Rvrs v York; Oxford v Hull (7.45), Peterbor-ough v Wycombe (7.45); Shrevesbury v Crawe, Spockport v Blackpoot, Swanses v Walsalt, Tabled Divisions Bernet v Com-bridge (7.45); Bury v Wigan: Chester v Cot-chester: Darlington v Harrlepool, Exeter v Northampton (7.45), Blingham v Scun-thorpe (7.45), Leyton Drient v Plymouth (7.45); Preston v Hereford; Rochdale v Lin-coln, Scarborough v Mengheld: Torquay v Cardidi (7.45). TEDINERITS SCOTTISH CUPP: Fost-th-round replany Forths v Andrie. MYELSH CUP: Semi-fisalis: Newport 2, Monsanto 1 (aet): Oystermouth 1, Llan-shen & Llandan (holders) 1 (aet, 2-4 pans). WOMEN'S CLUBS: Sharwood 1, Poynton

WOMEN'S COURS 19
Zone Orac Sherifelds Humberside 2
Lancs 1; Manchester Lge 0, LCL 3; Lancs 2, Shaffield Lge 0; Man Lge 0, Humberside 3
Seath Shieldes Northumb 1, Durham 0, Yorks 2, Cumbrie 0, Northumberland 3, Cumbrie 0, Yorks 4, Northumb 1; Cumbrie 1, Durham 5, Zone Three Bedford Suffolk 2, Ovon 2 Berks 9, Lucs 0; Statis 10, Suffolk 1, Shrops 0, Berks 1; Lincs 0, Statis 12, Zone Foars Bitten Keyness Warnes 3, Lelos Ken 7, Essex 1, Suseox 6; Warks 3, Lelos Cuma 6

ice Hockey

ICE HOCKEY

BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier Division:
Durham 4, Cardili 3, Humberside 3 Basingstoke 3, Million Reynes 3, Newcastle 4:
Nottingham 4, Fite 5 Division Once Bilingham 4 Guilctiord 12: Manchester 10,
Durniries 1, Medway 7, Sohihuli 6, Merrayleki 4 Bracknesh 11; Passley 12, Blackburn
12: Peterborough 9 Swindon 5
NHL: Bufalo 6, Florida 1; Anahelm 4, San
Jose 3, Hartford 2, Dallas 6, NY Islanders
2, Edmonton 0; Philadelpina 3, Chicago 2:
Colorado 4, Otjawe 2, Lauding standings:
Eastern Conference Mortheast Divlinions 1, Pritishurgh (W56, L20, T4, Gr268,
GA204, PS78): 2, Montreal 330-24-7200-186-67): 3, Boston (25-25-8205-207-69), Attamin Divisions 1, NY
Rungers (35-15-(1-219-167-81), 2, Florida
33-18-11-208-(132-77); 3, Philadelphila
33-18-11-208-(132-77); Western Conferences Centrel Divisions 7, Defroil
(44-11-4-222-132-92), 2, Chicago
(44-11-4-222-132-92), 2, Chicago

Real Tennis WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP ELIMINATOR (Melbourne). First day: F filippelli (Aus) leads M Gooding (GB; 6-2, 3-6, 6-4, 6-1.

Snooker

Fixtures

(7.30 unless stated) Soccer

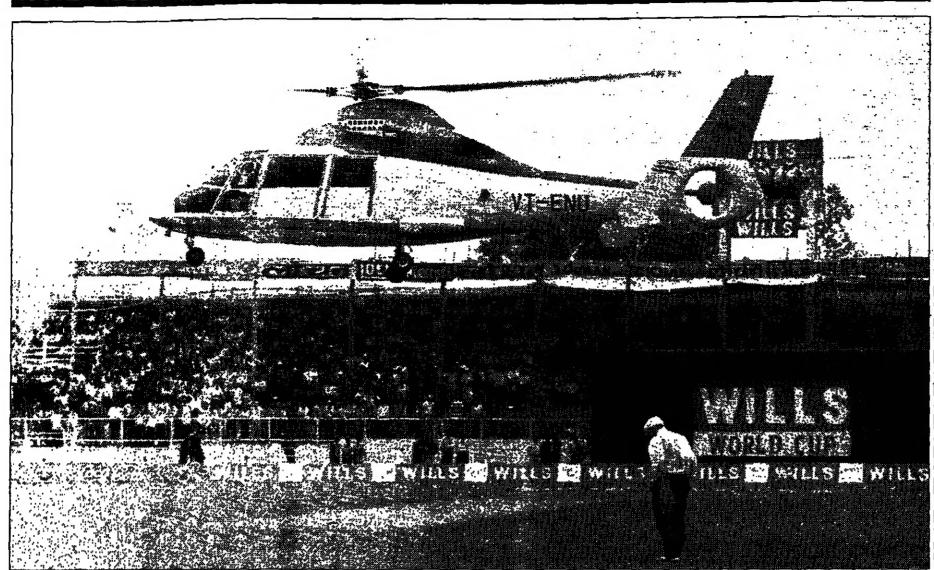
BELL'S SCOTT COTTISH FIRST 50 Ayr Utd 61 Fortar 52 Queen of Sta 63 Stirling A





ortsGuardian





Illingworth stands by his man

In a side that can turn misfortune into a habit-forming drug the potential is there for the whole thing to fall apart

Mike Selvey reports much defiance and an apology

tance to acknowledge Mike Atherton as the best man to lead England characterised his early period in selectorial office, gave his captain his backing yesterday in the face of calls for a remainder of the World Cup. Atherton's field placing and

strategy, particularly his own position in the batting order, have came under fire from the chairman. But in the Rawalpinds on Sunday, Illing-

ate agenda: "Mike was picked to do the job during the World Cup and that's it." Meanwhile Atherton has of-

fered his apology to the Pakibelled a "buffoon" during the press conference that fol-lowed England's defeat by South Africa. In a brief statement the captain said: "I am sorry if I caused offence to a local journalist and the local lournalists during questions yesterday.

wake of England's 78-run hu-miliation by South Africa in will note the "if": there was no "if" about it. But the apol-

Pakistan Federal Union Journalists, which had sought it on behalf of the offended man, and unless the Karachi crowd retain umbrage when England play Pakistan on Sunday, there the

easy to write off England as total no-hopers with the whole edifice crumbling about their ears. Even the local papers have begun to take the mickey, suggesting that England should qualify in future through the ICC worth insisted that a new | ogy has been accepted by the | Trophy, the route through

forming drug the potential is apart, and some of the signs — catches dropped when they matter, silly run-outs, introverted batting — have begun to loom large. Yesterday Illing-worth put his finger on one or two salient points. "The fielding was a lot bet-

ter against South Africa," he matter would seem to rest.

Were it not for the fact that one-day cricket is a notoriously fickle beast, it would be not right for people like Steve Palframan [the South Africa "pinch-hitter" during the opening overs] and that contributed to them making too many.
"I felt 200 was what we

needed to keep them to. I'm very disappointed with our opening batting and we have got to get it sorted out. Neil cess, although there is a case for not using both regular Short of Illingworth and openers on a slow pitch. But on Atherton using a radio link. quicker pitches against good as in American football, the pace attacks we should go back captain is on his own on the

which non Test-playing to our regular openers."

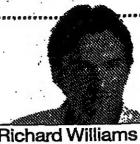
Now, there may be misguided people who are wondering what, if Illingworth is chairman, who prides himself sibilities and arrived at some the supreme being of English contingencies? Atherton's is not unknown for him to use

> his powers unilaterally, so why the problem with the openers? If he felt Atherton future progress of the Eng-land Test team, and he is a and Stewart should have genuinely classy opening faced the new ball, then his responsibility was to insist batsman in limited-overs cricket. But there is a real that it happened his approach is sufficiently On the other hand, setting upbeat to take short games by fields for the slog in the opening overs when there are the scruff and twist restrictions on the number of outfielders is not easy. But

> Convention is the problem, Paiframan was allowed the freedom to hit the ball over the leg-side infield to wide however.It has always been assumed that a captain should be captain come what may. Yet since one-day interopen spaces at midwicket while a man was stationed, to national cricket now has a no great effect, at deep square character far removed from leg. Atherton had acknowledged that something different was required but had nel-Test cricket, selectors must acknowledge that, provided he can cut the mustard as a ther the nous nor the flair to player, a specialist captain is do something marginally as much a part of the game as unorthodox.

> a specialist batsman.
> When it happens, though, it will not be England who do it Short of Illingworth and as in American football, the first; they are not innovative enough.

Tragic, this hellish saga of Faustino



N TERMS of natural justice Martin Bodenham was right to take no immediate action over Faustino Asprilla's use of the elbow and forehead against Keith Curls at Maine Road on Saturday. more clearly, he might have felt constrained to flourish the red card at Newcastle's Colombian forward. As the matter stood, his obstructed view protected him from doing the wrong thing. "He's from Latin America,

and that's the way they are. Kevin Keegan said of Asprilla afterwards, in the verbal equivalent of a helpless s Like the referee, Keegan hadn't seen either of the incidents properly, and was improvising a response to jour-

nalists' inquiries. The only meaningful defence of Asprilla is based not on ethnicity but on a belief that the most serious offenders on the football field are seldom the figures standing in the dock when the truly draconian punishments are handed down. Instead, by a weirdly distorted logic, such punishments are generally visited on their victims.

The two most memorably severe sentences handed out to English footballers in recent years were the nine match ban received by Paul Davis of Arsenal in 1988 and the eight-month suspension served by Eric Cantona last year. What their cases had in common was that both men were responding to

provocation. Cantona's action invited us to reflect on the possibility that it might indeed be unrea sonable to expect a normal human being to remain unlout getting in his face at a moment of stress and shoutwas motherfucker "(Although we must not forget that the lout in question could only recall uttering a much chirpier suggestion: "It's an early bath for you, Cantona!") Paul Davis was punished for breaking the jaw of Glenn Cockerill, again in an incident unseen by the referee but brought to light by television

cameras. What the subpoe-

naed footage did not illustrate

was the degree of provocation involved. Davis, then Ar-senal's captain and on the verge of a regular place in the verge of a regime page of a regime was a play-maker of refined gifts and a scarcely blemished disciplin-ary record; the enforced hia-tus destroyed the momentum

of his career. So now we are faced with the problem of Asprilla, who arrived in England a couple of weeks ago and turned the course of a Premiership match within 10 minutes of

etting foot on the pitch. We know that he has a colourful past. I should be sur-prised to discover, for example, that his contract with Newcastle United exempts him from Sunday matches on account of a prior commit-ment to take his place in the choir stalls at St Mary's Cathedral on Clayton Street. But his misbehaviour was not the stalyst of Saturday's mayhem. His talent was.

If you ask me, it went back to the minute before half-time when he broke Nigel Clough's tackle and dinked the ball di-agonally forward over the heads of Curle and his fellow centre-back Kit Symons. As it fell to earth, backspin made it sit up and beg to be driven home by the onrushing Philippe Albert, whose blind-side run had been spotted and assessed by the Colombian long before its implications had oc-curred to the City defence.

This was a good candidate for the pass of the season, in a ear unusually well-endowed in that respect. Cantona, Giggs, Juninho, Redknapp. Gullit, the rehabilitated Clough and a few others are regularly passing the ball with a quality familiar only to those who remember the orime of Johnny Haynes.

NGLISH football can still be infuriatingly incoherent, but better instincts may be starting to prevail. Too much so, anyway, for the likes of Keith Curle, whose job is to destroy Maddened by his own mability to nullify Asprilla in a legitimate manner, he resorted to forms of tackling that his countered in Colombia, and certainly not in Serie A. where even the hard men think of themselves as creative footballers.

Whatever punishment the FA eventually inflicts on Asprilla, it will do well to visit at least a matching sentence on Curle for his attempts to wrestle his opponent to the ingly raised fist which surely provoked the head-butt. The Faustino Asprilla Liberation Front starts here.

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There are many who fear a hard-sell, getrich mentality more suitable for fast food than for last rites.

G2 page 4

FA charges Asprilla and Curle Guardian Crossword No 20,586 but police rule out prosecution

lan Ross

CAUSTINO ASPRILLA and Keith Curle were yesterday charged with misconduct over Saturday's ugly incidents at Maine Road.
The Colombian striker.

who cost Newcastle United £7.5 million this month, has been charged on two counts and the Manchester City captain on one after a speedy Football Association investigation into the

widely reported flare-ups during the stormy 3-3 Pre-miership draw.

Both men now have 14 days to respond. They face possible suspension and heavy fines.
The FA's action came

after senior officials, in-cluding the chief executive Graham Kelly, spent hours studying video footage of the two incidents. The comments of the match referee Martin Bodenham and his linesman Andrew Martin were faxed to Lancaster Gate early yesterday.

"It is clear that both play-

said an FA statement.

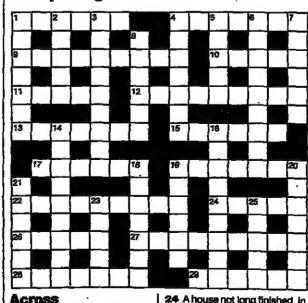
Asprilla appeared to elbow Curle in the face as they disputed possession early in the second half, and just after the final whistle he seemed to bead-but the defender.

The Newcastle manager
Kevin Keegan, who had
said he would discipline
Asprilla if he was "satisfied [the Colombian] was in the wrong", ordered the media to stay away from United's training centre yesterday as St James' Park resounded not to the sound of condemnation but to rap idly closing ranks.

Asprilla's only consolation yesterday came from Greater Manchester police. who announced they were content to leave the case with the FA, saying: "It is not a police matter. Asprilla must be glad he is not playing in Scotland,

where late last year Everton's Duncan Ferguson was head-butting an opponent.

Set by Plodge



Across 1 No Parfait Knight pulls up, stopping short . . . (6)

- 4 ... on the road. But there's no harm in going back to make his fortune (7) 9 Take in smoother tawny port
- . In 11 (9) 10 Almost regain consciousness on the plane (5) 11 Outside France, the Parisian can suffer from lack of air (5)
- 12 About a father of Midnight's Children sending Bill back to University in 11 (9) 13 Support North Uist as a
- federation (7) 15 One of 11's crops is supported on ten poles (6)
- 17 He wrote of 11's struggle -"Golden Spring" (6) 19 11's attic painter (2,5) 22 The Free-Church minister who

became 11's dramatist (9)

- 24 A house not long finished, in the province of 11 (5) 26 Having contained the
- disease, diagnosis was made less difficult (5) 27 Letting in article of 11 and becoming more lenient (9) 28 The Italian smart-set blows into the Mediterranean ... (7)
- 29 ... having sailed with exemplary guides (6) Down
- 1 Simple Simon sits down for 2 11's city where the artist em-
- braced a seedy local gent (5) 3 Simple commons said to have been forked out for the flight (5,4)
- 4 The spirit returned to Tory M.P. who gave up wine for 5 Pass back with hesitation to

the stand-in (5)

- 6 16 quality of one i-island in the French church (9)
- 7 Has Runyan's Detroit seen the last of Vincent Hanna? (6) 8 Inventor who showed a lack of ostenization in retirement (8)
- 14 Strikes dumb those pussies whose purris not up to scratch (9) 16 Inherent in reading trash (9)
- 18 Subsequently almost all will produce a side shoot (7) 19 Stands for 4 down and 19 ac. when 26 lost a penny to gain pounds (6)
- 20 Another of 11's crops grown in the Great Plain (7)
- 21 It's a hoot, to push off around the Orient . . . (6) 23 ... and not have to dread

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